Pope County Notes

John W. Allen
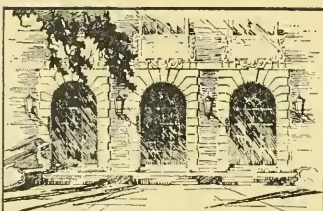
Museum of Natural and Social Sciences
Southern Illinois University

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John W. Allen

Acting Director
Museum of Natural and Social Sciences
Southern Illinois University

Introduction

Chester F. Lay

Former President
Southern Illinois University

Illustrated Map

Loraine Waters

The third in a series of County Histories prepared
by the author, Randolph County Notes
and Jackson County Notes pre-
ceding the present publication.

I

Preface

No history of Pope County has heretofore been published. This booklet does not pretend to tell the county's story fully. However, it does attempt to assemble materials that may aid in kindling an interest in local history.

The author wishes to acknowledge the countless courtesies and kindnesses extended to him by many persons on his numerous trips to the region. County officials and others whose work has made them acquainted with parts of the county's story have been especially helpful. Older persons have contributed from their memories of earlier days. All have expressed interest in having even a brief record, such as this, published.

JOHN W. ALLEN

April 1948

With the Ridges and Valleys of Pope County in His Face

As a high school boy in Golconda, I was thrilled when my father, who was County Clerk of Pope County at the time, showed me, with care approaching reverence, the old records referring back to the days when Pope, like the rest of Southern Illinois, was a part of Virginia. Not only did the pioneer move westward to settle Illinois, but also he moved from the south ever northward. Judged by its civilized population at that stage, Illinois and Southern Illinois were synonymous. The author of this brief history of my home County has ably shown the place of Pope County in this westward and northward march of the pioneers.

The world's greatest earth scientists agree with the schoolroom teacher that any real understanding of geography must begin in the school boy's foot tracks. In the same way, any real feeling and appreciation of the truths of history must begin with an understanding and appreciation of the school boy's home people and home places. For these reasons, we at Southern are pleased to present, for the use of teachers and all those interested in the area served by this University, a series of regional histories, of which this is the third.

This southern area in a northern State has successively based its economy upon the frontiersmen's hunting, fishing, and sustenance farming; selling the fine hardwood timber down the rivers; wheat and corn farming; livestock growing after the Kentucky pattern; mining; fruit growing; and moderate beginnings in manufacturing. With a higher birthrate than that further north, and with an exceptionally high percentage of the people with Anglo-Saxon background, it is gradually being realized that the richest remaining resources of Southern Illinois are the young men and women who constitute this area's greatest export crop.

"Pope County Notes," we hope, will make some contribution toward the growth in knowledge and appreciation of their own people by the school children of Pope and its neighboring counties. I am entirely confident that the many who have made their way to places of respect and even prominence in near or far places will read this first history of their home county with both homesickness and pride. Once while I was a professor in the troubled Near East my thoughts kept returning to the rugged people and hills of Pope, and I was struck by the aptness of Omar Khayyam's reminiscences when philosophizing:

"Myself when young did eagerly frequent
Doctor and Saint, and heard great argument
About it and about; but evermore
Came out by the same door wherein I went."

Or, as my father says, in the language of our hills, "You can take the boy out of Pope County, but you can't take Pope County out of the boy." For all such "boys and girls," we would be proud to know that this simple record "pleasures ye."

Chester F. Lay
President
Southern Illinois University

February 11, 1948
CFL:mmp

III

Pope County Notes

BACKGROUND

Even to a casual observer many localities in Southern Illinois yield evidence of the pioneer era. For those who observe carefully, a wealth of artifacts connected with the early years of the region's history awaits an opportunity to tell its stories. Many log houses that have lived from the early years of settlement still stand. Sunken roadways, often deserted and overgrown with forest trees, mark the early immigrant trails. Old fords indicate the places where these roadways crossed the streams before bridges were built. Numerous abandoned cemeteries, with shapeless and unlettered grave markers, reveal the spots where the now forgotten pioneer was buried. Homely devices and strange tools of the first settlers are yet to be found in attics and lofts where they have lain for a lifetime. These and many other evidences await the one who would study the humble life of those who laid the foundation of our state's greatness.

A knowledge and appreciation of the contributions which the pioneers made help much toward a better understanding of our life today. At the same time, it will increase respect for the skill, the sturdiness, and the all-round capabilities that the pioneer possessed. The fact that they wrought intelligently and well will become very evident.

In some ways, pioneer Southern Illinois was kind, but altogether it was an exacting and difficult task that faced the first settlers. That they did their work well and laid a solid foundation for the things we have today, clearly indicate a high degree of intelligence, industry, and capability.

Pope County may well be considered typical of a vast area of Southern Illinois hill land. Its relative convenience to the Ohio River at a time when good roads were practically unknown was an advantage. The highways to and from numerous ferries, across both the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, led through its forests. Its virgin soil, now badly eroded and otherwise depleted, produced excellent crops. Its spring-fed streams assured a bountiful supply of good water. These streams also furnished power for the gristmills of the pioneers. Its forests yielded a practically unlimited supply of building materials. In its hill lands, malaria was not so prevalent as in the lower and swampier lands found at many other places along the river. This county was an attractive area for settlers.

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One cannot be positive as to the very first ones that came into the county. At the time of their coming, the land had not been surveyed. No systematic records were kept. Into the unsurveyed wilderness the settlers quietly came. Sometimes they built homes, cleared a spot in the vast forests, and remained as residents of the new land. At other times they paused for a year or so and passed hopefully onward. Others did not halt as they journeyed along the lonely woodland trails toward points north and west.

Relatively few people returned along the roads that led many to the westward. For most persons the trails led to new homes and to a measure of happiness. Others perished on the journey and were buried beside the trail. Some very old persons yet recall the sites of these lonely and generally unmarked graves. Most of these burial places are forgotten, as are the names of countless thousands that hopefully plodded toward the ever-beckoning west. Even though only a few names remain, it is not difficult to pause beside a worn and deserted roadway that once was an important immigrant trail, and in imagination, see the unending stream of people silently trooping past. With the passing years, the number of people moving along these old roadways grew less. Some were going by steamboat, and others, over the better highways farther north.

As the number of immigrants crossing the county grew steadily less, what might be called isolation came.

Pope County, once traversed by many thousands of immigrants, was definitely out of the lines of major travel.

The pioneer environment of Pope County was thus left to be influenced less and less by new immigration. Many of the skills and crafts practiced by the pioneers remained in use here after their disappearance in more accessible regions. Until the coming of improved state highways within comparatively recent years, the residents of the rural areas of the county clung to much of the pioneer culture. Evidences of this culture are now fast disappearing.

This booklet is written in the hope that it may help toward a better understanding and greater appreciation of the significance of that all-but-vanished era. It may thus not be out of place to include in this division certain general information that may serve as a background against which the homely information given may be viewed.

To the middle-aged person who grew up in an isolated community of Southern Illinois, much of the information concerning pioneer life may seem commonplace. Even so, it is hoped that such references may arouse memories of other days, memories from which passing years have removed all the sting.

The pioneers found no houses into which they might move. It was necessary that such be built. Since the forest was all about them, this new house would, almost without ex-

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ception, be built of logs. Often it would consist of only one room and sometimes have only the earth for a floor. The usual tools the pioneer had available for use in building his home and furniture were a chopping ax, a broadax, a drawing knife, a frow, and perhaps an auger. Trees were felled and shaped to their intended use with the ax and the broadax. With the frow, boards were rived from some suitable oak nearby. With drawing knife, timbers were smoothed, where the ax and broadax were not suited to the purpose. And with an auger, not so essential as the other tools named, were bored holes into which pegs might be fitted to fasten timbers together, or to form legs for the home-built furniture.

Since nails were scarce and often difficult to secure, a gimlet was frequently used to bore holes, into which small whittled wooden pegs were fitted. The clapboards for the roof were held in place by weight poles laid on each course and fastened down with pegs or withes. Household furniture was also fashioned from the forest trees. A large slab, smoothed with the broadax and supported on wooden pegs for legs, made a table. Chairs and benches were made from short sections of logs, or from slabs with legs made from pegs smoothed by the ax and drawing knife. A single post set on the floor or in the ground, with rails extending to the walls, provided a platform upon which a bed could be made. Meals were prepared at the fireplace which also served to heat the house. Many of

the dishes were also made from wood.

The first crop planted by practically every settler was a patch of corn. From the corn he grew, the pioneer secured feed for his livestock and grain for making his cornmeal. Corn whiskey, in common use among the pioneers, also came from this same source. Wheat was not generally grown until some years after a settler had established his farm. Much of the meat eaten by pioneer families came from the wild game of the forest. Clothing was coarse but durable. That of the men was often made from deer skins. For the women and children it was generally homespun cloth, known as linsey-woolsey. When flax or cotton were not available, the cloth was "all wool."

Shoes were of rugged construction. They were often made by the householder. At other times a shoemaker would come with his rolls of home-tanned leather, small bags of wooden pegs, some waxed linen thread, a small assortment of tools peculiar to his trade, and a few lasts over which the shoes might be fashioned. Shoemaking was essentially a local industry. During the summer season, many persons went barefoot.

As soon as a few people had settled in any vicinity, the practice of "swapping work" began. A man wishing to build a new barn or house would invite the men from some distance about. Enough help was often assembled practically to complete the building in one day. Failure to receive an invitation to

such occasions was considered an affront. The occasions were not without certain social values, since the women and children generally came along. The children thus met and played with other children. The women prepared such a noonday meal as would be most satisfying to men who were engaged at hard manual labor. The men rolled logs, engaged in feats of strength, talked of the subjects interesting to pioneer men, often drank more than was exactly good for them, and occasionally had a few fist fights.

Money was very scarce, and trade was usually by barter. Paper money was of questionable value. The common coin in use was the "rix" dollar. In order to make change, this coin could be broken into eight pieces or "bits" along the lines already marked on it. From this practice the terms "two bits," "four bits," and "six bits" were derived. English money was sometimes used.

Cattle, hogs, and horses were allowed to run at large. In order that each one might know his own animals, these were branded by the use of a hot iron, or were marked by cropping and cutting the ears in a certain pattern. The ease with which livestock could be grown is indicated by the fact that beef or pork often sold for three cents or even less per pound. A first-rate cow and calf could be bought for ten dollars. The hide from a cow or steer was worth as much as the meat.

Since waterways were ready-made routes for transportation of goods, settlements naturally began near them. With the coming of land transportation, the smaller streams were crossed at fords. Ferries were established across those streams that could not be readily forded. With the increase of overland transportation, bridges came to replace many of the fords. The first roadways were along winding trails that were marked by the blazing of trees. For land transportation, wagons and carts were commonly used. In some cases, the wheels of these vehicles were made from short cuts of logs. Sleds, lizards, and mudboats were also frequently seen.

The sports and amusements of the early day were those in which the strength or skill of the individual counted most. There were practically no organized games, such as those known today. Among the amusements for men, the shooting match was perhaps most common. In these matches, the shooting might be done at a mark or at a goose or turkey that had been tethered to a stake. At most of these gatherings, fights were common, but these could hardly be termed sporting events, since gouging and kicking were generally allowable. Dances, husking bees, and apple parings offered opportunity for boys and girls to meet.

Soap-making was an activity that occurred at least once each year. Wood ashes were saved from the fireplace and stored in an ashhopper. Meat scraps were also carefully saved. When soap-making time came, usually in the spring of the year, lye was leached from the ashes in the hopper, and the meat scrap

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was placed in an iron kettle with this lye and cooked over an open fire until a very potent soap resulted. This was about the only soap known to the pioneer.

When compared with the present-day methods of giving out punishment to law violators, those of the pioneer seem rather severe. Whipping was common. At one time in Pope County, a person convicted of burglary or perjury could be sentenced to receive up to thirty-nine stripes. For the first offense of horse stealing, the punishment was not less than fifty nor more than two hundred stripes. For a second conviction, the penalty was death. For hog stealing, one would receive twenty five stripes; for altering or defacing brands, forty stripes; and for bigamy, from one hundred to three hundred stripes. Children or servants, convicted of disobedience before a justice of the peace, could be sent to jail or to a house of correc-

tion. Should a child or servant assault or strike his parents or master, a court of two justices could sentence the offender to receive ten stripes. In all cases, where whipping was ordered, the stripes were to be "well laid on."

The pioneer era did not know nor require the many kinds of skilled workmen of the present day. Perhaps the most essential craftsman in any early settlement was the blacksmith. It was he who fashioned the tools used by the settlers. The more skilled of these men became the gunsmiths who made and repaired the firearms of the settlers. With in-

creased settlement, stores were established and tradesmen appeared. Many of the tools that had heretofore been made by the local blacksmith were to be found for sale in these new stores, but the blacksmith continued to be an essential craftsman in each settlement.

In all early county records much space is given to roadways. In order to secure a new road, the settlers desiring it would sign a petition to be presented to the county authorities. If the petition was granted, and it usually was, "road viewers" were appointed to locate the new road. This was done by selecting the best available course through the woodland and "blazing" the trees to indicate the location of the route chosen. Little attention was paid to land lines; hence old roadways often appear to wander from place to place. Streams were generally crossed at fords; ferries and bridges came into common use with increased settlement.

In the early days of Pope County, slaves were owned by a number of people. An extended account of this practice will be found under that title in the later text.

The lot of servants and children bound out was often little better than that of the slaves. Children or younger persons who had no parents or others able and willing to care for them might be "bound out." The term of such service ended at the age of eighteen for girls and twenty-one for boys. A girl thus bound out was occasionally given a small sum of money, a Bible, and almost always "two dresses suitable to her station

in life." Boys were generally taught a trade and sent to school until they learned to read, write, and "cipher to the double rule of three." The bound boy sometimes received a Bible and generally a suit of clothes "suitable to his station in life." In addition to the above, he occasionally received a small amount of money, as well as a horse, saddle, and bridle. Being bound out did not prove any great handicap in after life. There are numerous instances of children who were bound out in their youth and who later attained reasonable distinction.

Where white children were "bound out" or apprenticed, they always seem to have received some money or other consideration of value at the end of their apprenticeship. In the case of Negro children, no mention is found concerning any payment or reward given at the end of the period for which they were bound. The only consideration indicated in such cases was that the child thus apprenticed was to be "trained as a servant."

The lot of the poor was not in anyway a happy one. In the county records one often finds such references as" ---, a pauper, was sold out to the lowest bidder to be boarded, clothed, and cared for" at the expense of the county. The rate for the care of these unfortunate persons varied from one dollar to three dollars per week. This practice was followed for many years before the county farm or "pauper farm", as it was generally referred to, was established.

Because of the difficulties of travel, large crowds were common only three times each year, when such gatherings took on a county-wide nature. These were election days, court days, and muster days. Election and court days correspond somewhat with the same events today, but muster day was an institution that has disappeared. It came from the rule that each able-bodied man was required to serve in the militia and to meet at designated places and at stated intervals for military drill. Those days saw a motley crowd in the county seat. Members of the militia, each with his own rifle and equipment, came to muster. The officers, often wearing uniforms and swords, came for their brief day of glory. By the close of the day, many men had drunk themselves groggy, the officers had bawled themselves hoarse, and there had most likely been a number of fights. Altogether, the day was a demoralizing one. When Andrew Jackson came to the presidency, the practice of muster day was abolished. It was revived for a short time during the Mexican War.

The foregoing affords a few glimpses of an era that has passed. In its history, Pope County has been ruled by the Indians, French, English, Virginians, and Americans. It was a part of the Northwest Territory, and later of the Indiana Territory, before being known as part of Illinois. Across the county and along its borders, significant military expeditions have moved. Its citizens have participated in the nation's wars. Men who have exerted more than passing influence on the affairs of the state

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and nation have had their homes here. Several industries have risen, flourished, and vanished. Flatboats and steamboats have plied the streams. Pirates, in the early days of river traffic, sought refuge in this region.

Pope County has an interesting history, and if this booklet and its accompanying map serve to increase interest in that history, they will have served their purpose.

ANIMALS

The animal life native to Southern Illinois was all important to the people who lived here prior to the coming of the white men. To the Indians it was, with maize or Indian corn, the major portion of food. The Indian does not seem to have been bothered much concerning the particular animals eaten. At their old camp-sites and in the shelter of rock ledges where their food was prepared and eaten, one finds bones of practically all the mammals large enough to furnish even a few bites of food. Turtles, terrapins, fish, eels, and mussels were common articles of diet. With the abundant animal life of Southern Illinois and their ever dependable Indian corn, beans, melons, pumpkins, and assorted roots, the Indians of this area ate about as well as those of any region in the United States.

When the white men came, they found the same plentiful animal life that nurtured the Indian. They borrowed his food crops and added others of their own. This situation made it an attractive area for settlement.

The native animal life as a source of food was almost as important to the pioneer as it had long been to the Indian.

As has been stated, the Indian ate practically any animal he killed. The pioneer was more particular. His food animals were the buffalo, deer, elk, bear, raccoon, opossum, rabbit, squirrel, and perhaps a few others. He did not include animals that are generally looked upon as purely beasts of prey. The wolves, panthers, bobcats, minks, foxes, and some other such animals were not attractive food items for the white man. He liked geese and certain ducks among the waterfowls. He particularly liked wild turkeys. The white man sought and killed for food the animals he most desired. This process also operated to lessen the natural food supply of such beasts of prey as the country had. With the diminishing supply of their natural prey, wolves, panthers, and foxes turned more to the domestic animals of the settlers. The settlers then became interested in an effort to destroy the animals they considered harmful. Old county records indicate many bounties paid for wolf scalps. In some counties the rule of the county board concerning the payment of a bounty for wolf scalps has never been repealed.

Many stories are told of the settlers' clashes with wolves and panthers in particular. The howling of the wolf pack or the cry of the panther aroused fear and dread in the most stouthearted. Tradition records stories of the killing of lone settlers by such animals. Reverend

John Crawford writes of quite a battle waged by his father, another brother, and himself, against a panther that was attempting to steal their pigs. Their dogs held the animal at bay, and the father finally killed it with stones. It was several

years after the settlers came that the panthers disappeared, and several more before the wolves ceased to alarm people and to be particularly destructive of livestock. The panther was often referred to by the pioneer as a "painter" or "painther." It was the same animal now occasionally found in the Rocky Mountains and known as the mountain lion.

The fur bearing animals of the region were the beaver, otter, marten, raccoon, muskrat, mink, and some others less valuable and perhaps not so common. These animals were also of value to the pioneer, since their pelts could be sold for needed money or exchanged for products that were brought from more distant regions. The animal life of the area was altogether a helpful factor in promoting early settlement.

Many of the native animals have entirely disappeared. The buffalo was perhaps the first to go. Bear, elk, and deer followed later. Otter, beaver, and marten vanished early. The wolf and panther were destroyed. Bobcats became, and yet are, scarce. Foxes became somewhat less common, but are now on the increase. In recent years, wolves have been seen in several localities and have been killed or captured in a number of places. Deer have been brought back and released in the

hope that they may be protected and once more be seen. The wild turkey disappeared a generation or so ago. Fresh stock has been brought in and released. It is hoped that the woodlands may again be the home of these attractive birds. Beaver have been returned, and their dams can be seen at several places. The disappearance of some of these native animals is to be regretted. Under proper protection and care, some may return, but doubtless others will not.

One of the tragedies of the wild life that once flourished in Pope County is that of the passenger pigeon. Though larger, these pigeons closely resembled the mourning doves, now relatively plentiful. Very old people yet recall seeing them in immense flocks that literally darkened the sky for some minutes at a time. They often clustered so thickly at roosting time that large limbs of the trees were broken by their weight. Older people of Pope County may refer to one of these localities as "the pigeon roost." They were so plentiful that farmers clubbed them to death at their roosts and fed their carcasses to the hogs. They began to appear in smaller numbers and in a few years vanished. So far as is known, the last specimen of these birds died in the zoological gardens at Cincinnati, Ohio, in February, 1914.

INDIANS

Pope County, with its varied topography, provided an excellent region for animal life. This abundance of wild animals that served as food for

the Indians made it an attractive hunting ground for them. Numerous remains indicate that extensive native villages existed in this region. Space will allow the discussion of only a few of the remains to be found in the county. After that, the firsthand account of one who came into intimate contact with the Indians of the immediate vicinity will be given.

Kincaid Mounds

Kincaid Mounds is a group of mounds located in the very southern part of Pope County and in the adjoining portion of Massac County, most of them being in Massac County. These mounds were erected by a people living in this region before the coming of white men. Excavations and study reveal that they served various purposes. S o m e mounds were burial places and, when excavated, are found to contain human bones and assorted objects buried with the dead. In other cases the objects found indicate that the mounds served as dwelling sites, places of worship, work shops, or for the location of some other activity that entered into the life of the people who built them. Despite all that has been learned, there yet remains enough of the mysterious to interest almost any who stops to view.

From these mounds many of the tools and implements and much of the equipment used by a primitive people have been recovered and some parts of their way of life revealed. Much yet remains to be learned.

There are several of these mounds, and they have attracted much at-

tention from the earliest times. Many of the smaller mounds were much defaced by plowing and by amateur archeologists who often did not understand the significance of the objects discovered. In recent years, the University of Chicago has conducted extensive excavation and gathered much significant material. These mounds receive their name from T. J. Kincaid, an earlier owner of the ground on which they are situated. Kincaid lived across the line in Massac County.

War Bluff

War Bluff, several miles almost directly north of Golconda, has sheer sides on the east, west, and north. It is connected with the hill lands to the south by a narrow isthmus about 75 feet wide. The area of the bluff is about two acres. The remnants of the wall found there today are parts of the original wall. This wall is perhaps the least disturbed of any similar structure in Southern Illinois. The purpose of this enclosure is not definitely known. It may have served as a place of defense by the Indians or as a compound into which game was driven. On the extreme north end of War Bluff is a place known as Lover's Leap, the story connected with it being the usual one.

Old Indian Fort

Old Indian Fort is shown on the Illinois Atlas of 1876. It is also known as Indian Kitchen and is located about a half mile above Rose Ford, on the Raum highway, on the west bank of Lusk Creek. This fort resembles very much the one in Giant

City Park, the one at Stonefort in Saline County, the one at War Bluff, north of Golconda, and the one at the Pounds in Gallatin County. In each case a high bluff or headland is connected to the main land by a narrow isthmus that once had a wall or fortification built across it.

A Boy's Account

Only one account concerning the actual relations between the early settlers and the Indians in Pope County has been found. This was written by the Reverend John Crawford, who came with his parents when they settled near the mouth of Grand Pierre Creek, in 1808. The portion of his account concerning the Indians is given as he set it down.

"In the spring of 1808 we left the Kentucky shore, and landed on the Illinois side of the river at the mouth of Grand Pier Creek, some five miles above the present site of Golconda.

"This had evidently been an Indian town; a battle of some magnitude had been fought here.

"When this valley was brought into cultivation, its soil was found to be literally filled with musket balls and Indian darts.

"I have in my possession a five-pound cannon ball which father found in the center of a large oak tree. This is preserved as a relic of early times, having the priority of all others, as it must have been deposited there during a battle between the French and Indians before any American had seen the Ohio at that point.

On the tops of the surrounding hills was demonstrative evidence that there had been a great slaughter in that valley, each hill presenting a large burying-ground, marked by large flag-stones in long rows set up in their crude state, and overshadowed by large oak trees.

"The indian towns at that time, were said to be principally on the Oca, (Okaw) Illinois, and Tippecanue Rivers, but we were surrounded by large hunting parties during every fall season up to the war of 1812. These parties appeared to be very friendly, often taking possession of our fireside on chilly and rainy days, which was surrendered to them, through fear, together with whatever provisions that were on hand which they might require. I often trembled with cold and fear and felt the oppression of hunger, because of these intrusions to which we were circumstantially compelled to submit.

"On one occasion when father had gone to Kentucky to mill, mother and the children being alone, a very large Indian came in with a silver ring in his nose as large as the bottom of a tin cup and demanded his dinner. Mother of course spread before him all the provisions on hand of which he partook freely. He then approached the fireside, taking a large scalping knife from his belt, looking intensely at us children, drew it three times across his throat then stretched himself full length before the fire for a sleep with his knife in his bosom. We understood this as a warning not to disturb him. We all took position in the rear of the cabin and endured the cold till he concluded his sleep, and at his departure there was great joy in that house.

"Another scene of horror to us came during the occurrence of highwinds when some Pennsylvania flatboats were driven into harbor at father's landing. Knowing the Indian's great love for whisky and our defenseless situation, father presented our case to the boats' officers and obtained a promise not to furnish whisky to the Indians, but these boat officers proved faithless and when the Indians brought their peltry furs and dried hams to exchange for whisky, they were furnished in abundance. The encampment numbered over twenty and was in full view of our cabin about four hundred yards off. A scene of drunkenness and a great war dance ensued. They fought profusely among themselves and made frequent dashes toward the cabin to attack us, but at every onset they were repulsed by the sober ones who pushed them back often at full length and knocked them down with whatever came to hand. Father and the boys prepared to make the best defense possible, but fortunately for both parties they were repulsed before they reached the cabin.

"At the declaration of the War of 1812, these hunting parties were called in by runners before the whites knew of the declaration of war, as there were no mail facilities in that region in those days. On leaving, they painted themselves and assumed a hostile attitude, walked with a great air of dignity past the cabin, direct to our small boats at the shore, our only means of communication with our few neighbors in Kentucky. These they confiscated, and with their supplies of game, descended the Ohio and ascended the Mississippi.

"The supposed reason why we were not massacred was that a family was in plain view on the Kentucky shore who would have beheld the deed and given notice to a settlement of whites at the mouth of Cumberland River, who could have intercepted them. This was the only settlement of much strength between Shawneetown and Kaskaskia at that time. Since then there have been no Indians in Southern Illinois, only as passing through under government arrangement."

EARLY SETTLERS

Pope, along with some other counties in Southern Illinois, had relatively few very early settlers. It is known that some settlers had come into the area before 1800, but no land is indicated as having been settled for some years after that. This lack of record is due to the fact that the United States land offices did not open for sale of land in Illinois until 1814. Those who came before that time held no titles to their land unless it was through a grant given to someone who had settled and made improvements before 1790, or to others who were given land because of their having rendered military service.

Available records show only two claims made for the grant of government lands for military services, and none are shown based on improvements made in Pope County prior to 1790. One of these military claims was in Section 19, Township 13S, Range 7E, and is included within the present limits of the city of Golconda. This tract is designated as Survey No. 690, Claim No. 582. The claim was filed by Robert Kidd, who transferred his rights to Robert Mor-

rison by deed made at Kaskaskia, on April, 18, 1805. This deed, witnessed by William Wilson and Henry Jones, is recorded in Deed Record K at Chester, Illinois. The land commissioners, Michael Jones and E. Backus, allowed the claim at Kaskaskia on December 31, 1809. After what appears as somewhat involved trading, the title was secured by Thomas Ferguson who operated the ferry long known as Lusk's Ferry. It was for one-hundred acres "affirmed to include the improvements and ferry of said Ferguson, called Lusk's Ferry, to conform to sectional lines." Kidd's claim to land was based on his having been a "militiaman enrolled and doing duty in Illinois, on the 1'st day of August 1790."

A second claim for one-hundred acres located on the Ohio river just north of where Bay City now stands is shown on the government plat book in the Circuit Clerk's office at Golconda. The American State Papers show that this tract was originally claimed by a man named Thomas Winn, and that he assigned his claim to Pierre Menard who, in turn, assigned it to Isaac Fitmore, to whom it was confirmed on December 31, 1809. This tract is recorded as Survey No. 696, Claim No. 297.

The initial settlers who procured land in Pope County made their purchases at the Shawneetown land office. Inasmuch as it may be easier to follow locations if given in groups rather than in order of time, some of the earlier entries will be located according to the section of the county where they were situated.

Beginning the record in the northwest corner of the county around McCormick, the first settler to enter land was Gideon Alexander, who on May 31, 1836, purchased parts of Section 1 and 12, just south of the place where the village of Colorado was later to be located. On December 5, 1843, slightly more than seven years after the Alexander homestead was established, D. Beal, D. B. Grace, and George W. Jones purchased land in Section 6 of this same township. Each bought his land on the same day, and it may reasonably be inferred that they had previously planned to live as neighbors. Beal's Hollow, which opens into the valley where Bell Smith's Spring is found, was named for the Beal family mentioned above. Other settlers followed in the 1840's, but it was during the 1850's that land settlements in this region reached the highest peak.

In the next section south of McCormick, just northwest of present-day Glendale, John Witt made a purchase of land in Section 20, on April 24, 1817. It appears that he did not complete payment, as this same land later became the property of G. W. Waters. Also, William Penny entered land in Section 10 on February 26, 1818, but there is a possibility that he may not have completed the purchase, as a note on the land book says, "relinquished I think." Robert Penny bought land in Section 23, about three miles east and one mile north of Glendale, on April 23, 1818. Others who purchased land in this area were Right Modglin, who entered land in Section 20, about a mile north of Glendale on January 25, 1819; and James

Whiteside, who made an entry on November 24, 1818, for land in Section 24, about a mile west of the Robert Penny property. Also, William Modglin located in Section 17, just north of the Right Modglin claim, on September 1, 1818. Almost twenty years elapsed before other claims were filed in this region. Lugar Wright came in 1837, Samuel Hazel and George Walters in 1838, and George Laughlin and Alexander Murphy in 1839. A few others came during the 1840's, and within the next decade this section was rather fully settled.

The settlements within the region south of Glendale and around Dixon Springs were generally located near the early roadway leading from Lusk's Ferry to Vienna and Jonesboro. The first land entry in this area was made by Justin Wilson on June 27, 1817, in Section 4, about two miles north of Dixon Springs. Isaac Bozarth bought land in Section 3 about a mile east of Wilson's tract one week after Wilson had made his entry. In 1818, Samuel Alexander settled in Section 3, near Bozarth, and William Wilson bought land a mile or so northwest of the springs.

Within the present-day Temple Hill vicinity, James Richey entered land in Section 1, about two miles northeast of Temple Hill, on November 23, 1815. Some three years later, Charles Shelby came to live in Section 1, near Richey. The next person to enter land in this locality was Robert Hayes, who filed a claim on November 21, 1822. Later, on May 20, 1825, James Green entered

land in Section 3, about two miles north and west of Temple Hill.

Despite the fact that the region lying around Oak, Delwood and Blanchard was served by two branches of the Shawneetown-Jonesboro Road, land entries within this area were not made until the year 1837. The initial entry was made by Moses Davis, on June 22, 1837, in Section 36, about two miles southeast of Blanchard. The succeeding entries were made by John and James Williams, on June 5, 1838. John located in Section 13, a mile or so southeast of the present post office of Oak; and James in Section 24, about two miles northeast of Blanchard. Jonathan and Joseph Diorman entered land in Sections 7 and 17, a short distance southwest of Delwood, on December 10, 1838. John S. W. Morse entered land in Section 17, near them, on December 18 of the same year.

In the Eddyville-Raum area, S. Penny and E. Penny entered land in Section 18, about one and one-half miles south of Eddyville, on February 16, 1818. Perhaps these men did not complete the purchase, as a note on the land book seems to indicate that the land passed to F. Beanard before full payment was made. The next entry in this region was made by Richard Fulkerson, in Section 25, about two miles southeast of Raum, on July 13, 1818. No other person bought land in this vicinity until James Gilbert located in Section 3, just northeast of Eddyville, on February 8, 1836. During the year 1836, John Lauderdale settled in Section 30, almost four miles south of Eddyville; Joseph Hall, in

Section 13, a mile or so northeast of Raum; and Joseph Vaughn, in Section 3, near James Gilbert.

The next section centers around Golconda and Waltersburg. Here, on November 3, 1815, James Allcorn filed claim to land in Section 19, a mile or so southwest of Brownfield. The next entry was made in Section 23, some two miles west of Golconda, on April 25, 1817, by a man whose name appears to have been Francis Glup. William Rambeau and John Colver entered land in Section 26 and 28, on May 6, 1817. In January, 1818, James King settled in Section 13, a mile or so north of Golconda. John Crawford located in Section 31, near Brownfield, in May of the same year. In July 1818, James Cogswell purchased land in Section 24 near Golconda, and in October of the same year, James Pittalo (sometimes recorded as Pittulo) entered land in Section 17, near Waltersburg. Isaac Shufflebarger came to Section 2, about four miles northwest of Golconda, in March 1822.

In the Rosebud, Homberg, Bay City section, George Lusk made the first land entry in Section 24, on May 6, 1816. According to present-day maps, this location was washed away by the Ohio River. William Dyer entered land in Section 15, between Bay City and Homberg, on June 3, 1817. Later, on October 13, 1817, William Cowan entered land in Section 10, about a mile southwest of Homberg, and Robert Scott, in Section 15, a mile or so south of that entered by Cowan. Samuel Tanner and William T. Shepherd entered land in Section 2, about two miles east of Homberg, on November 10, 1817, and William Croncher in Section 9, just south of Homberg, on May 11, 1818.

Within the portion of Jefferson Township lying south and west of Bay City, John D. Hickman entered land in Section 9, on November 9, 1818. The next entry was made by William Griffith in Section 1, near Bay City, on March 20, 1822. No other entry was made in this section until John Kincaid bought land in Section 3, on July 5, 1836.

The Hartsville-Herod area discloses an initial entry as early as September 13, 1815, when Jesse Story settled in Section 15, about two miles southeast of Herod. After more than twenty years, Elbert Rose entered land in Section 10, east of Herod, on July 6, 1836. On July 11 of the same year, Joseph Lambert entered land in Section 5, northwest of Herod; and in the following August, Alfred Rose purchased land in Section 3, northeast of Herod.

The eastern section, around Lusk, shows the first land entry to have been made by Thomas Rose, in Section 34, near the Ohio River, on January 4, 1836. On June 6 of the same year, Randal Towns entered land in Section 19, about two miles southwest of Lusk. The next day after Towns had made his entry, Francis Hoff entered land in Section 17, just southeast of Lusk; Thomas Fulkerson entered land in Section 18, southwest of Lusk, on July 5, 1836; and on October 11, 1836, James Rose located in Section 34, near where Thomas Rose had settled in January of the same year. On November 9, 1836, Reeas Shelby purchased land

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in Section 22, about three miles southeast of Lusk. However, it is assumed that he did not complete payment, as the land passed to "Field and Clark."

Along the Ohio River, and near present day Golconda, Thomas Ferguson entered land on July 12, 1814. This entry in Section 19 appears to be the first made in the limits of the present-day Pope County. The second sale in this region was on March 18, 1815, to Daniel Fields, who bought a tract of land located in Section 7, about three miles north of Golconda. On April 24, 1818, William Belford entered land in Section 6, about a mile north of Fields. Fourteen years later another entry was made by George W. Waters in Section 4, about four miles northeast of Golconda, where a rock quarry has long operated. In June 1836, M. M. Rawlings located in Section 5, west of Waters. Joel Crosby settled in Section 6, just west of Rawlings, on the tenth of the same month. By June of 1837 Benjamin Melton, Richard Melton, and William Modglin had settled nearby.

In the area lying between Bay City and the southern end of the County, Reuben Glover entered land in Section 30, about five miles south of Bay City, on October 5, 1816. On October 10 of the same year, John Wood entered land in Section 7, about one and one-half miles south of Bay City. The next entry occurs twenty years later, when John H. Smith settled in Section 7, near the John Wood's tract.

On October 14, 1814, John Caldwell entered land where the village of Hamletsburg now stands. In November of the same year, Hamlet Ferguson settled land in Section 3, just north of Hamletsburg. Also, John Warwick made an entry in Section 20, southwest of New Liberty, on February 9, 1815. The next entry was by J. Hunter and others in Section 9, just southwest of Hamletsburg, on August 18, 1820, followed eleven days later by that of Benjamin Thompson in Section 6, about three miles west of the village. James McCawley settled in Sections 28 and 29, southwest of New Liberty, on February 13, 1822; and Lindsey Wright in Section 4, just northwest of Hamletsburg, on August 30, 1836.

The entries given are offered as indication of the earlier settlements of the county. It may be repeated that the early land entries were made slowly until about 1850. At that time the settlement rate increased so rapidly that ten years later little government land remained unsold. However, a very few such tracts remained until about 1890. The sale of these last tracts marked the end of the public domain in Pope County.

HOW POPE BECAME
A COUNTY

The territory included in present-day Pope County has been claimed by different countries and territories, and has been a part of several other counties. The Spanish laid claim to all the Mississippi Valley, basing it largely upon DeSoto's discovery of the river, in 1542. By reason of the exploration of Joliet and Marquette, in the Mississippi Valley, the French claimed the territory. The English held it after the French and Indian War. It is thus seen that Pope County has been claimed by three foreign nations. When the colony of Virginia was granted a charter in 1606, amended in 1609 and 1612, its north and south boundaries were to be "West and northwest." The men promoting the colony of Virginia naturally interpreted this to mean that the northern line was to extend in a northwesterly direction and that the southern line extended due west. A glance at a map of the United States will show that by this interpretation, Virginia would include a great part of our present day nation, including all of the state of Illinois. The colonies of Massachusetts and Connecticut were granted charters that included portions of Illinois, but neither of these claims included Pope County.

For more than a century, the colonies of Virginia, Massachusetts, and Connecticut made no effort to settle the territory. The Spanish were busy in other sections of the Americas and gave this region scant attention. France gave some effort to the development of the territory and made a few settlements in present day Il-linois, none of which were in Pope County. Though the French did relatively little toward actual settlement and development of the vast territories included in the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, they were recognized as having the most valid claim and were in possession. They occupied the territory until the close of the French and Indian War in 1763, at which time they ceded their claim to the British. By this treaty the lands included in Pope County ceased to be a part of the French Colonial Empire and became British territory.

The next change in possession came through the capture of the British posts in this section by George Rogers Clark, in 1778 and 1779. By the treaty between the American colonies and the British at the close of the Revolutionary War, the colonies came into recognized possession of the area. Virginia's early claim had been much strengthened by her conquest of the territory, and it was governed by men appointed by that colony. It remained a part of Virginia until that state ceded her claim to the newly formed National Government, before Maryland would ratify the Articles of Confederation. The Ordinance of 1787, passed by the Continental Congress, set up a form of government for the Northwest Territory, including all the State of Illinois. In the division of counties, as established in 1790 for the purposes of local government, Pope, along with almost all of Eastern Illinois and much of the present State of Indiana, was included in Knox County. This arrangement of counties so far as it affects Pope, is shown by the map of 1790.
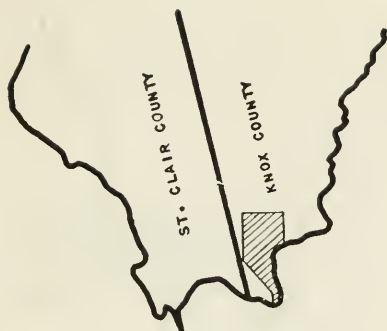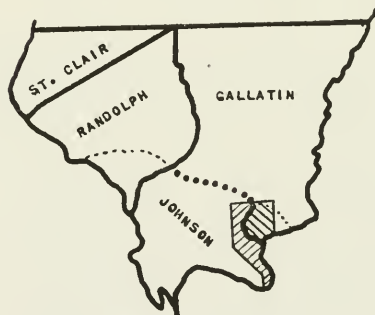
COUNTIES OF ILLINOIS IN 1790

Though other changes in county boundaries were made between 1790 and 1801, present-day Pope still remained a part of Knox County. On February 3, 1801 the Governor of Indiana Territory which had recently been established, issued a proclamation that changed the boundaries of the counties of St. Clair and Knox and established the new County of Randolph. This new County of Randolph included present-day Pope, as well as much other territory of Southern Illinois. The county seat was located at Kaskaskia. This new arrangement of counties is indicated by the map of 1801.
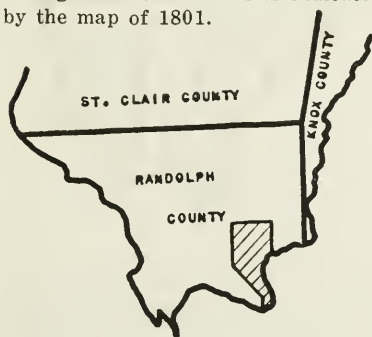
COUNTIES OF ILLINOIS 1801

In 1809, Indiana was admitted as a state, and the present state of Illinois became a part of the region included in a new division known as Illinois Territory. Numerous changes in county boundaries continued to be made, but none affected the region of Pope until Ninian Edwards, Governor of Illinois Territory, issued a proclamation, on September 14, 1812, establishing some new counties. Two of the new counties thus established were Gallatin and Johnson, each of which included a part of present-day Pope County. The counties of Illinois Territory as established by the Governor's proclamation are shown on the Illinois map of 1812.
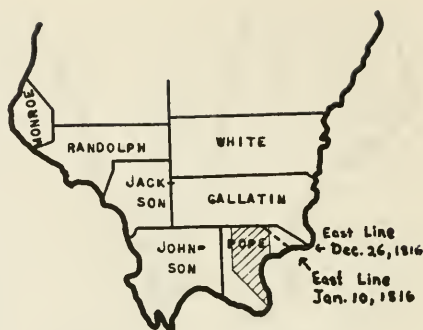

COUNTIES OF ILLINOIS IN 1812

Other changes in county boundaries followed, and new counties were established. These changes did not alter the situation so far as Pope County was concerned until the territorial legislature, by act of Janu-

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ary 10, 1816, established some additional counties. The portion of the law of 1816 that is of most interest here is as follows: "Beginning on the Ohio River where the meridian leaves it that divides ranges number three and four east of the third principal meridian; thence north to the township line dividing townships ten and eleven south; thence east eighteen miles; thence to that point on the Ohio where the line dividing ranges eight and nine leaves it; thence down the same to the point of beginning shall constitute a separate county, to be called and known by the name of Pope." The new county was named for Nathaniel Pope who had served as secretary for Illinois Territory. Pope County, as it was then established, is shown by the map of 1816.

In less than one year the boundaries of the new county of Pope were changed when the territorial legislature, on December 26, 1816, passed an act stating that "Beginning at the Rock and Cave (Cave-in-Rock) on the Ohio River; thence a straight line to the corner of townships number ten and eleven south, and ranges number seven and eight east of the third principal meridian," should be the new boundary on the northeast side of the county. This was only a minor change in the county, since the remainder of its boundaries were not altered. The eastern boundaries, as fixed on January 10, 1816, and on December 26, 1816, are both shown by broken lines on the map of 1816.
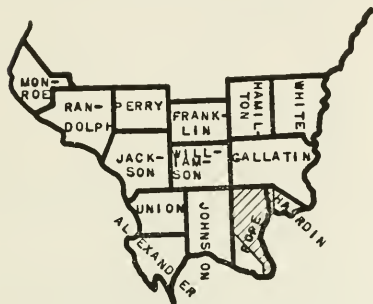

COUNTIES OF ILLINOIS IN 1816

With its boundaries as established by the territorial legislature on December 26, 1816, Pope County had little time to get acquainted before another change came. On January 2, 1818, Union County was formed from the western part of Johnson County, and Johnson was given a strip six miles wide along the western side of Pope. Pope County then appeared as shown by the map of January, 1818.

COUNTIES OF ILLINOIS 1818

The boundaries of Pope as fixed by the territorial legislature in January 1818 remained unchanged until March 2, 1839. At that time the por-

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tion of Pope County lying east of Big Grand Pierre Creek was detached and designated as Hardin County. Pope then appeared as shown by the map of 1839.

On January 8, 1840, the legislature returned to Pope County a small portion of Hardin County lying east of Big Grand Pierre Creek. The eastern boundary of Pope was thus established as it is today, but the Southern part of the county was changed by legislation enacted on February 8, 1843. At that time the county of Massac was established from portions of Johnson and Pope. On March 3, 1843, part of the territory separated from Pope and given to Massac less than a month previously was returned to Pope. This was the last change in the boundaries of the county. In the one hundred five years since that time, the boundaries of Pope County have remained as they appear on the historical map at the end of this booklet.

Thus, present-day Pope County has in succession been a claim of Spain, a portion of the French and British colonial empires, a part of the colony of Virginia, a part of the Northwest Territory, a part of Indiana Territory, and a part of Illinois Territory. It was, in turn, included in Knox County, Northwest Territory; and in Randolph, Johnson and Gallatin Counties, Illinois Territory. It was not until January 10, 1816, that a separate county was established and named Pope, as related in an earlier paragraph of this section.

The first meeting of the men designated by the Territorial Governor as officials of the new county was held on April 1, 1816, at the residence of Thomas Ferguson, near the present courthouse square in Golconda, then called Sarahville. Benoni Lee, who had been especially empowered to do so, administered the oath of office to himself, Robert Lacy, and Thomas Ferguson, as judges of the county court; to Hamlet Ferguson as Sheriff; to Samuel O'Melvany as Justice of Peace, Assessor, and County Treasurer; and to Thomas Browning as Prosecuting Attorney.

The next actions of the County Commissioners' Court were indicative of the type of work which occupied much of the court's attention for the next fifty years. The court first provided that a road be opened from Sarahville to Colonel Hamlet Ferguson's ferry, and another toward Gallatin County. It next appointed overseers of the poor for each township that had been established. Later it licensed taverns and fixed the rates the taverns were allowed to charge. Next it licensed ferries and established ferry rates. It built a courthouse, "of good hewn logs and shingle roof," twenty-four by twenty-six feet, with "more detailed spec-

ifications to be given later." With this courthouse it also authorized the construction of a substantial jail and estray pen. Pope County was definitely in operation.

FERRIES

On the border of Pope County, one of the first ferries of which there is any record was established by Major James Lusk, who procured a license from the Kentucky authorities in 1797. The next year, 1798, Lusk built a house on the Illinois side and moved to it. He continued to operate the ferry until his death in 1803. His wife, Sarah Lusk, operated the ferry after Major Lusk's death and was given a license by William Henry Harrison, Governor of Indiana Territory. This license was issued on May 7, 1804, and is as follows:

"Indiana Territory
William Henry Harrison, Esqr.,
Governor and Commander in Chief
of the Indiana Territory

License is hereby granted to Sarah Lusk to keep a ferry across the Ohio River in Randolph County, opposite to the one formerly kept by James Lusk. She, the said Sarah Lusk, engaging to keep at the said ferry good and sufficient boats for the passage of travelers, with their horses, carts, wagons, carriages, cattle, &c., &c., and for which she is to receive such toll as may be established for said ferry by the Court of Quarter Sessions for said County. And the said Sarah Lusk is also to enter into bond as the law directs for the proper keeping of said ferry.

Given under my hand at St. Vincennes the seventh day of May Anno Domino one thousand eight hundred and four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the twenty-eighth.

William Henry Harrison
(Seal)
By the Governor
Jno. Gibson, Secretary."

On April 2, 1805, Sarah Lusk married Thomas Ferguson, and shortly thereafter the ferry became known as Ferguson's Ferry.

Ferguson's Ferry competed with several other ferries across the Ohio River. Perhaps the first of these was Ford's Ferry, about three miles above Cave-in-Rock. A second one was established at present-day Elizabethtown. This ferry was kept by James McFarland. Samuel O'Mulvaney had one at the upper end of Stewart's Island. The fourth ferry was operated by Colonel Hamlet Ferguson in the vicinity of Cumberland Island. This ferry was made in two stages: one being from the Kentucky shore to Cumberland Island, and the other from Cumberland to the Illinois shore. Ebneezer Simpson kept still another ferry at New Liberty.

Several of the men operating ferries went to some expense and spent considerable effort in clearing out roads leading to their places. This was particularly true concerning Lusk's Ferry and Ford's Ferry. In the case of Lusk's Ferry, a road was laid out from that point to Green's Ferry on the Mississippi. The ferry of Samuel O'Melvaney was located opposite Miles' old ferry and was the beginning point for Miles' Trace

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which constituted an early county boundary line. O'Melvaney's ferry was established on March 5, 1810. It later became known as Carr's Ferry. A later ferry across the Ohio River was Clark's Ferry that operated from the south side of Bayou Creek on the Kentucky shore to a point about three-fourths of a mile south of Bay City. These ferries sometimes changed names a n d ownership and were often short-lived. The most widely k n o w n ferry in Pope County, without a doubt, was Lusk's, later Ferguson's ferry.

In some cases these ferries were propelled by large sweeps operated by men. Later, some of the larger ferries made use of horsepower. In such cases the horse generally walked in a tread mill on the deck of the ferry, and thus operated a paddle wheel.

Some of these early day ferries are still in operation, though under different names and ownerships. A ferry franchise is even yet considered valuable.

AGRICULTURE

In most of Southern Illinois the first settlers located in the forest. After they had provided absolutely necessary buildings, their next work was to clear and fence a plot of ground for cultivation. Farm land was often considered as "cleared" when the smaller trees—that is, those fifteen inches and less in diameter— had been cut away and the larger ones deadened by girdling.

In the initial clearing of the woodland for cultivation, much of the timber would thus be cut. The one clearing land would clear away and burn the smaller growth and the limbs and brush of the larger trees he had cut. This left the larger logs yet to be disposed of. A log rolling would take care of that part of the work. Men living within a reasonable distance would be invited to come to this event. Their wives and children would also come. While the men rolled logs, the women prepared the noonday meal and visited together. The children became acquainted and played such games as were common at the time. Log rolling was a "swap work" affair. Men did not expect pay for the work, but did expect the ones they helped to return the favor when invited. The general practice of this "swapping work" also came into use in house and barn raisings, and occasionally in other undertakings where an individual could not accomplish the task alone.

On newly cleared ground, the trees that had been deadened by girdling often stood as dead trees for many years. Their fallen limbs and the trees themselves as they fell occasioned considerable work for some years after the ground had been put into cultivation. "Picking up chunks" was an annual spring chore. It was on the cleared and fenced ground that the settler grew his field crops and much of his food.

Livestock was turned out to range in the woodlands. It was invariably the crops that had fences built around them; the cattle, hogs, and horses ran free. In order to be able to identify his stock, the settler branded them with a hot iron or

marked them by cutting their ears to a particular pattern. These brands and marks were registered in the office of the County Clerk, and the use of a particular mark was reserved to the one first registering it. Brands were generally made up of the initials of the owner. Marks were made up of various combinations of patterns to which the ears of the animal were cut. Some of the ear marks in common use were the crop, underbit, overbit, hole, and swallowfork. Since these marks could be used in either the right or the left ear, or both, the possible combinations were almost limitless. Though a pig may put up a vigorous squeal while having his ear trimmed, the operation inconveniences him very little.

When judged by present day standards, most of the livestock of that day would be termed as scrub. Hogs were "razor backs", which term pretty well describes their condition. They roamed the woods, and often lived upon the plants, roots, acorns, and nuts that they found there, until rounded up and slaughtered. Cattle were raised in like manner. At times of acute shortages of range, the owner called his stock home to feed it. This practice was sometimes used to supplement the range and to provide a better finished product. This practice also kept stock from becoming too wild. For this same reason the owner would regularly salt his cattle. Many a pioneer farmer was rightfully proud of the lusty calls he could make, calls that could often be readily distinguished a mile or so away. The value of livestock may be judged from the fact that a cow with calf at side often sold for fifteen dollars or even less, and pork could be bought for three cents a pound. A few sheep were grown for wool to supply local needs. Wolves, frequently found until the 1860's, made the raising of sheep a hazardous venture.

The first crop generally planted was corn. It provided fodder for livestock, grain for corn meal, feed for farm animals and fowls, and mash for the "essential" whiskey. It could be planted, cultivated, and harvested with fair success on newly cleared ground and among stumps, and thus was adaptable to the existing conditions.

Newly cleared ground was generally plowed with a particular type of new-ground plow. This plow had little or no bar on the side opposite the moldboard. The plow was mostly of wood, the metal parts being the moldboard, the coulter (cutter), and a few necessary bolts and rods. The moldboard was sometimes of wood with only iron strips. The coulter was designed to cut smaller roots and to allow the plow to "ride over" larger ones. The plowman needed to be wide-awake and agile to prevent being struck by roots torn loose at one end by the plow, or to prevent being struck by the plow handles when the point hitched, as it frequently did, on some unseen obstruction. Perhaps the experience gained in plowing with a new-ground plow can never be properly described to those who have not engaged in that task. Likewise, the memories gathered by those who did such work will not soon leave them. It is perhaps enough to say that it was trying both to the physical strength and

to the patience of the performer. If the new-ground plow was exceeded in its tendency to do the unexpected, that distinction perhaps should go to the double-shovel plow used in the later cultivation of the crop. The hand hoe was much used in cultivation of the corn crop.

Practically every farmer thought corn should be "chopped out" and the stumps "grubbed around" at least once each season. This task was carried out in late July or in August, when the corn was tall and the days were hot. Corn was "cut up" when it had sufficiently ripened, and arranged in shocks. Fodder would be "shucked out" later, generally during a period of damp weather in the winter. General use was made of large baskets of oak splits, for carrying corn about to feed livestock. A familiar figure on almost any farmstead at that time was that of the farmer, going across the barnlot with one of these baskets, often holding as much as a bushel, or carrying an immense bundle of shock fodder on his shoulder.

Pumpkins were planted in almost all cornfields. These were used to feed livestock, were cooked for table use, and were cut into strips and dried, to be cooked later in the winter. They were also made into pumpkin butter. Melons were also grown in the fields of corn, along with many beans for which the corn stalks provided support.

When time came to gather corn, it was sometimes "jerked" or "snapped" and brought to the barn or to the crib of fence rails, with husks still on it. Husking bees might then occur. At these times the neighbors, mainly the younger people, met for an evening of jollity. Captains were selected, sides were chosen, the corn was divided into two approximately equal piles, and all set to work with a will. The side finishing its portion first was declared winner. Perhaps one incentive to greater effort was the custom of allowing any young man finding a red ear to kiss the girl of his choice. It might be of interest to know that in the mixed varieties of corn then common, red ears were not so scarce as they are today. After husking was finished, a dance invariably followed.

Potatoes were an early and staple crop. The soil of Pope County was found to be excellent for their production. One of the early agricultural products shipped from the county was potatoes. These were often shipped by flatboats to the market at New Orleans.

Wheat was not generally grown until settlers had become more established. This may be explained partially by the difficulty of harvesting. The hand sickle was in universal use until 1830 or later. By this method, the grain stalks were gathered in one hand and cut by the sickle held in the other. These handfuls were piled together until there were enough to make a bundle. These were then tied together with a wisp of straw.

About 1830, the grain cradle was introduced and slowly came into general use. With the cradle a strong and active man could cut some two acres of wheat in a long day. Though this was a slow method, it

was many times more efficient than the hand sickle method. The work of a second helper was necessary to bind this wheat into bundles. The grain was sometimes threshed by flailing. At other times it was tramped out by horses or cattle driven over it. By use of a pitchfork, perhaps made from a forked limb, the straw was removed. The grain and chaff remained on the threshing floor. These were then separated by winnowing, that is, by pouring the mixed grain and chaff from pans or baskets at some place where there was sufficient breeze to blow the chaff away. If a sufficient natural breeze were not available, a large fan made of a sheet or blanket would be used to fan the grain as it was poured from containers. All of this meant much labor and may, in part at least, explain the reason for the somewhat slow introduction of wheat into general use as a farm crop.

A generation or so later, one finds reapers and crude threshers coming into use. Though these did much to lighten the labor of harvesting wheat, it was many years before hand methods that had been in use for centuries disappeared.

The earlier farmer sowed his small grains by broadcasting; that is, he walked back and forth across the field and scattered the seed by hand. By the 1860's drills for planting grain were in use. In 1869, the Golconda paper carried an item stating that wheat sowed by a drill was best. It was more evenly distributed over the ground and was not so likely to freeze out. This same paper, published in 1887, carried an advertisement stating that grain cradles

could be bought in Golconda. All this indicates that the more primitive methods had not entirely passed. Old sickles, grain cradles, and an occasional flail are found even today where some pioneer farmer left them in his barn or attic. Youngsters are often puzzled by their queer appearance and know little or nothing concerning the manner in which they were used.

Oats, rye, and barley came into use as field crops some years later than wheat. Small amounts of buckwheat were grown in the 1860's and later. In the same issue of the Golconda paper that tells of drilled wheat's being best, there is another item stating that bugs could be kept from the vines of melons and cucumbers by planting a few seeds of buckwheat in the patch.

At earlier times, a considerable amount of cotton was grown for the market. As late as 1876, a large cotton gin was in operation near the Pope-Massac line.

On many farms were small plats of flax, turnips, cabbage, tobacco, broomcorn, hops, castor beans and other crops.

Orchards were planted by numerous early settlers. They were not beset with insect pests so much as they are today. The early orchards contained apples, pears, cherries, and peaches. The latter two were not nearly so numerous as the apples and pears. Not many plums were grown, since an abundance of the wild varieties could be had for the gathering. Fruit varieties then widely and favorably known are now only the memories of older persons. The

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names of Northern Spy, Ben Davis, Fall Pippin, Fall Wine, Pearman, Rambo, and American Golden Russett, now seldom heard, will stir the memories of older persons.

There are many who insist that the apples of that day, though they were not so large nor so attractive in appearance, were even better flavored than present day ones. That may be true or it may be that the memories are tinged with a long-vanished, boyish appetite.

ROADWAYS

The first roads in the Pope-County territory were those leading from the early ferries on the Ohio toward important points to the north and west. They were often kept in repair by the owners of the ferries, in order to attract travellers to their places of business. It is recorded that some of the roads leading from Lusk's Ferry were laid out and opened by Major Lusk to secure business for his ferry at Golconda.

The first authentic map yet found that shows roadways of present-day Pope County is the postal map issued in 1841. This map was made by David H. Burr, geographer of the House of Representatives. Although it was issued in 1841, the information on which it was based evidently was gathered two or three years prior to that time. This map shows a main highway entering the county southwest of present day Bay City and proceeding in a northeasterly direction to a place near the Ohio River, about two miles north of the village. The road then followed along the

river through the present town of Golconda and left the county about the northeast corner of S34, T12S, R3E. This was the main highway leading from Fort Massac to Rock and Cave.

Another important road was the one leaving the Fort Massac-Rock and Cave road about two miles north of Golconda and going west. It passed a short distance north of Dixon Springs and continued toward Vienna and Jonesboro. A third road left the Ohio river at about the same place, proceeded in a northwesterly direction, passed the present village of Eddyville, and left the county near the northwest corner. This road led from Golconda, or Lusk's Ferry, to Frankfort and on to Kaskaskia. A fourth main highway entered the county about two miles north of the present village of Robbs and proceeded in a northeasterly direction to S24 in T11S, R5E. At this point the road forked; one branch, continuing in the same general direction, passed about a mile south of present Delwood and a mile north of Oak, and left the county near the northwest corner of S1, T11S, R6E. The south branch of this road passed about one-half mile south of Oak, crossed Gibbon's creek a short distance north of Herod, and left the county about a half mile south of the northeast corner. Both branches of this road led to Shawneetown and appear to have offered a choice of roads, depending upon the weather or season. There were doubtless many other roads in the county at the time, but these were the roads over which the mail was transported. It was over these roads that the ear-

ly-day stage coaches were driven. Some very old persons recall the last of these coaches and knew the men who drove them. Judged by present day standards, they were uncomfortable and slow. Despite this, they served their purpose well, and the tradition of them even yet adds glamour to the age they served.

The tendency in laying out these earlier roads was to follow as direct routes as conditions warranted. Since there were very few fenced farms, land lines were generally ignored, high hills and swamps avoided, and streams crossed at points where they could be most easily forded. With the establishment of farms and the building of fences, many old roadways were changed to follow land lines. In many places in the county, one may yet see the deeply worn trails of old roadways, some of which were deserted a century ago.

Since bridges were practically unknown, larger streams were crossed by ferries and smaller ones by fords. A ford was necessarily located at some shallow point on the stream, where sloping banks permitted wagons to enter the stream and be pulled up on the other shore. In some places where a solid bottom could not be found, floors of logs and poles were laid in the bed of the stream. These were often held in place by cross poles that were fastened down by forked posts. This same method of crosslaying with logs and poles was used in swampy and miry spots. It was called corduroy. Though it was a serviceable road, it was a rough one.

A number of the fords established at an early day are still in use. They soon became landmarks and were often used as points from which other places were located. One of the well-known fords of the county is Maynor's Ford, named for Calvin Maynor who lived nearby. This ford is across Hayes Creek, about one and a half mile southeast of Eddyville. Another one, across Lusk Creek, about three miles east and slightly south of the village of Lusk, is known as Rose Ford. It takes its name from one of the men who lived in the vicinity.

At the point where the very early roadway crossed Bay Creek, about four miles west of Eddyville, one finds another old ford named for David Watkins who lived there. John Anderson gave his name to the ford across Lusk Creek north of Waltersburg. Porter's Ford was on Lusk Creek about three miles north of Waltersburg. Manson's Ford across Lusk Creek is another ford that has been used for many years. It was named for George Manson, who lived near it. Carvel Ford on the old roadway from Eddyville to Glendale was named for Smith Carvel, who had a blacksmith and wagon shop at that place. This was an important shop, and many wagons were made there.

These are only a few of the fords that were used by the citizens of Pope County. As bridges were built and the location of roadways changed, some of the old fords were no longer used and have been forgotten. As one wanders along some stream, he occasionally sees a deeply worn but abandoned and overgrown roadway leading to a likely

crossing place. On the other bank of the stream, he sees the same evidences of an old roadway's leaving the stream. When carefully sought, the interesting story of these old fords can be uncovered.

CHURCHES

Ministers and missionaries doubtless visited Pope County prior to 1811, but the first known record of a minister's working there was made in that year. This man had come from eastern Kentucky, from the vicinity of Cumberland Gap, by way of the "Wilderness Road." It is said that he arrived at Lusk's Tavern, then called Fiddler's Green, on the same day that the first steamer, the New Orleans, stopped there on its way down the Ohio River. This man, James MacGready, was of Presbyterian faith, traveling, as he stated, "for observation and opportunity." The people of the settlement later known as Sarahville urged the Reverend MacGready to stay in town and preach for them. This he consented to do, but it is not known how long he stayed. Records, later than those of the coming of Reverend MacGready, made occasional allusions to other preachers.

The work of Reverend MacGready, who later established Sharon Church near Enfield, Illinois, or that of some other Presbyterian minister who came to Golconda, shortly bore fruit in the establishment there, in 1819, of the present Presbyterian church, now the oldest organized church of that faith in the state of Illinois. This church, of sixteen members, was organized on October 24, 1819, by Reverend Nathan B. Darrow. A copy of the record of this organization service is given in the next paragraph.

This day a number of persons convened at the Courthouse in Golconda, for examination preparatory to the planting of a church in this place. Sixteen persons, whose names are hereafter recorded, gave in their names for members in a Presbyterian church in this place, and after inquiry respecting their belief and practice, it was resolved to be planted in a church state tomorrow. Accordingly, on Lord's Day, the 24th of this month, after a discourse from Rom. 4th chapter, the church was planted by the persons aforesaid making the following Confession and Covenant. (These are omitted at this place from the record consulted.) **** They are, therefore, hereby declared a regular member of the church of Jesus Christ, and as such recommended to the fellowship of sister churches and to the attention of the Ambassadors of Jesus. By me,

N'n B. Darrow, V. C. M.,
"Missionary for Connecticut."

The orginial members of this church were as follows: James E. Willis, Eliza Willis, Joshua Scott, Jane Scott, David B. Glass, Francis Glass, Agnes Glass, George Hodge, John Hanna, Margaret H a n n a, George H. Hanna, William P. Hanna, Jane Hanna, James H. Hanna, Benjamin Spilman, and Nancy R. Spilman. Benjamin Spilman became a rather prominent churchman in later years and was a teacher in the academy or college established at Equality.

In the early years of this church, the congregation had two places of worship, one being in the village of Golconda and the other in the country on the Vienna road. In earlier years, the meetings in Golconda were held in the court house or school house or in a Union church. This plan of meeting seems to have been carried on until 1869, when the present building was erected.

The meeting place of the congregation in the country was in the home of Francis Glass, where meetings were held until about 1832. They were next held at the house of David B. Glass, some four miles west of Golconda, until about 1840. At that time, Bethel church was built. Though never entirely finished, it was used until about 1858 when it was sold and the proceeds used in building a church called Bethany. The title to this church was with the Cumberlands, but the building was used also by the Presbyterians until about 1877. During the next year, the Presbyterians built a church called Prospect. It was located near the middle of the N. W. quarter of S33, T13S, R5E. Another church named Grove had been erected in 1871, about three miles southeast of Prospect church. It was soon abandoned, and the members re-united with the Golconda church.

The history of another early church, which may be considered as typical of the first churches of the county, is that of Olive General Baptist Church. This church was founded near present day McCormick by Elder William Hurt, in 1855. The six members uniting to form it were Nathan Bramlet, Mary Bramlet, Gilbert Penell, Matthew Bracewell, Irene Bracewell, and Matilda Bracewell.

The beliefs of this group — and these seem to be typical of the general church beliefs of the period— are rather clearly shown by the confession of faith adopted. These articles of confession are, briefly, as follows:

1. The new testament is the only safe rule of conduct.
2. There is only one true God.
3. All people are fallen and depraved.
4. All salvation, regeneration, sanctification, resurrection, ascension, and intercession come from the death, resurrection, ascension, and intercession of Christ.
5. One who endures to the end is saved.
6. Punishment of the wicked is eternal.
7. Communion is only with those baptised by immersion.
8. The sanctity of Sunday, the first day of the week, is affirmed.
9. There is to be a resurrection of the body.
10. All should be tender and affectionate, one toward another.

In order that the business should be transacted in an orderly fashion, the following "Rules of Decorum" were adopted by the church:

1. All meetings will be opened and closed by prayer.
2. Only one person may speak at a time.

3. One must not interrupt the speaker.
4. The speaker must adhere to the subject.
5. No one may speak more than three times on any one subject.
6. There must be no whispering and laughing.
7. Members shall be addressed as "brother" or "brethren." (It seems strange that "sister" or "sisters" were not included.)
8. No one may absent himself without the permission of the moderator.

These articles of faith and rules of decorum were signed by Wm. Hurt as moderator and Matthew Bracewell as clerk. The church formed at that time is still in existence and appears to be a reasonably prosperous country church.

In many of the communities, the church services were held in the same building used for school purposes. The description of an early-day church building is, therefore, about the same as that of an early-day school. The buildings were most likely of logs; the benches, of slabs or half logs, were supported on wooden pegs that served as legs. As the congregation grew and became somewhat more prosperous, benches or pews were built. Some of these hand-made seats are yet to be seen in country churches. Such church services as were held at night were generally announced for "early candlelight." The light for these services was supplied by a grease lamp, or candles, and in season, was helped by the light of the fire place. It was not unusual for the only illumination

to be that used by the minister to allow him to read the scriptures. The congregation thus sat in semi-darkness.

The teacher's desk often served as the pulpit. In some instances, a special stand was built. When heat was required, it was supplied by a fire place or, at later times, by a stove. In cold weather this heating was uneven, and it was not unusual to see members of the congregation quietly moving back and from the fire or edging up to it.

There were generally three services on the week-end, but these services were often held only once each month. The Saturday afternoon service, usually at about two o'clock, was looked upon as the business meeting of the church. At that time such business as should come before the church was transacted. Members were disciplined, letters granted, members received, plans for future church programs formed, or other business matters attended to. The Sunday morning and Sunday evening services were those in which the major sermon efforts were made. The sermons were generally of the revival type and placed much more emphasis on the fate awaiting the unsaved soul than do those of the present day. It was not unusual for the sermon to last for an hour or more.

As was stated earlier, the preachers were often men of only average learning. They spoke the language of the common man in the community, frequently making very liberal use of 'ah,' 'and-ah,' and other superfluous words. There was considerable prejudice against an edu-

cated minister. Peter Cartwright, one of the most noted frontier preachers, in his sermons and writings often expresses disapproval of book learning. It must be admitted that many of the ministers of that period were earnest and consecrated men and often weielded great influence. They were usually poorly paid, receiving only a free-will offering. If it had not been that on week days they were farmers, merchants, doctors, or tradesmen of some kind, the work of the ministry could hardly have been carried on.

The social aspects of the church at that time were greater than those of today. The crowd would gather long before church services were to begin. They used this interval in visiting and talking. The actual church services generally began by the singing of a song. At that time most of those present would troop into the church, find themselves seats, and settle down to await the sermon. After church there would be more visiting, but since appetites had generally become acute, this visiting would not be unduly prolonged.

The songs used in the services were more solemn and sedate than the congregational songs of today. Song books were not so common as they now are. It was not unusual to have the preacher or some song leader announce the hymn and line it; that is, sing a line of the hymn, allow the congregation to repeat the line, and continue the process, until a "verse" had been completed. The portion of the song thus rehearsed would be repeated in its entirety. As books became more common, this

practice of lining the hymn became unnecessary. Even then, few of the song books carried the music. Since no instruments were in common use in the earlier church, it was not unusual to find that the one leading the singing used a tuning fork, from which he secured the proper pitch and relayed that pitch to the congregation. Some time later, song books with shaped notes came into use. With the help of singing schools, the method of singing was somewhat changed. Prayers called forth more than ordinary vehemence, and numerous instances are on record where the prayers could be heard a mile or so away.

When Sunday came, the people invariably put on their clean or Sunday clothes. Men often took their weekly shave. Shoes or boots were shined, children were carefully scrubbed, the boys had their hair "roached," the girls and women put on their prettiest dresses, and all went to church. Many ministers denounced an occasional tendency of some woman to dress in what might then be considered as too striking a manner. There are numerous instances of such disapproval in the sermons and writings of Peter Cartwright, mentioned earlier. In most early churches it was the practice for men and women to sit on opposite sides of the house. In the corner next to the minister, on the side occupied by the men, one might expect to see the "pillars of the church." This was known as the "amen" corner, doubtless from the fact that at times during the sermon some one seated there frequently approved the utterance of the preacher by fer-

vently saying "amen." In the corresponding corner on the opposite side, one might see the elderly and more important women of the congregation, but one seldom heard "amens" coming from that corner. When people lived beyond reasonable walking distance of the church, they might be seen coming on horseback or in wagons that were often drawn by oxen, and later in buggies or carts: some also used mud boats, and sleds. Basket dinners and all-day services were frequent. In the wagons were liberal paddings of hay on which a number of people could be seated. During the services, the horses or oxen were unhitched and tied to the wagons. When this was done, the hay padding for the return trip was often thinned considerably. Such expressions as "Come and go home with us for dinner" were often heard, and it was not unusual for about half the people going to church to go home with the other half. Such visits were repaid, perhaps, on the next meeting day. A bucket of water and a drinking gourd were available for the thirsty, and a pitcher and glass were often to be found convenient to the minister.

When church was out and people started to leave for home, it was not at all unusual to see a sizeable group of boys line up beside the doorway, particularly at the evening service. They were waiting to "see the girls home." The aspiring boy would leave his group and surprise the girl of his choice with a rather common expression, "May I see you home?" If it was agreeable, the girl would reply, "Yes;" if not, she would say, "No," and the boy was "sacked."

This called forth some laughs and perhaps deterred the boy in his social progress.

Some people, generally young men, seemed to go to church for no other purpose than the social contacts that they might make. It was not unusual to see a group of these young men standing, throughout the services, just outside the church windows or doors.

With each year came the church revival or portracted meeting. At such times, if interest were aroused, there would be large crowds and a considerable amount of enthusiasm. The successful minister generally "sprinkled" a liberal amount of brimstone and told a number of deathbed stories. As the interest and enthusiasm mounted, shoutings were frequent. More of the shouting came from women than from men, but the shouting of men was not unusual. In some instances, the great excitement of the meetings induced epidemics of "jerks." In such cases the victim was seized with convulsive jerkings of the body that were rather alarming to observers, and often rendered the person incapable of controlled movements.

In some instances, the places of meetings were under sheds erected for the purpose. At the present time such buildings are termed tabernacles, but they were then generally designed as sheds. Services might even be held under a brush arbor, that is, under a rude shelter made by piling leafy branches on an elevated platform. This arbor sometimes extended over the entire congregation; at other times, only over the pulpit

and the seats nearby. Seats were generally rude benches made of planks or puncheons laid across logs. In some cases these camps would be set up in a rather military fashion, with guards, assembly calls, and other characteristics common to a military post. Sunday School did not become common until about the time of the Civil War. Even then, some sects did not receive it very enthusiastically.

SCHOOLS

The first official record found concerning schools in Pope County is that in the minutes recorded for the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, held at Golconda, on June 14, 1825. At that meeting were presented a number of petitions, signed by residents of different vicinities, and asking for the establishment of school districts. The first one recorded was a petition to establish a school district with boundaries as follow:

"Beginning at Golconda, thence up the Ohio River so as to include Samuel Alexander thence with the Shawneetown road to the Saline road thence with Stucken path to Church's Ford on Lusk Creek, thence on a direct line so as to include William Rondeau thence to the Ohio River on Lack's (or Jack's) Landing including Smith's Mill, thence up said river to place of beginning. Therefore ordered by said court that the aforesaid boundaries constitute the first school district of Pope County."

Although some of the landmarks mentioned in the above description can not now be definitely located, it can be determined that the district described was some five or six miles square, or about the size of an ordinary rural voting precinct of today.

At this same meeting a second petition was evidently allowed, but it does not seem to have been recorded. The next district which was established and which had boundaries given is designated as the third school district in the county. The boundaries of this third school district were as follow:

"Beginning at the mouth of Big Creek, thence up the same to half a mile above the Salt Petre cave thence westward to include Mr. Asa Davises' thence southerly to the Ohio River to include Mr. Alexander Parkinson and Alex Blair, thence up the same to place of beginning to be styled and called the 'Monroe School District.' " The boundaries of another school district are given, the fourth one in Pope County. This district lay east of Big (Grandpierre) Creek. At that time this territory was a part of Pope County but was placed, a few years later, in a newly created county of Hardin. Since only a small part of the district is in present-day Pope County, a detailed account of this district will appear in the Hardin County Notes.

It will be seen that all of these districts were extremely large when compared with present-day ones. It was not then unusual for a school district to extend three miles or more in practically all directions from the school. This large area was necessary in order to secure sufficient revenue to pay school expenses. Even then, expenses of early schools were

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not large if measured by present-day standards, since many of the teachers were paid $20.00 or less per month. Several early-day contracts for teaching in Southern Illinois have been found, providing a salary of only $16.00 per month.

The pay of the teacher was often made in produce of the community and in a small amount of money. The things mentioned as acceptable for payment of the teacher's salary were corn, wheat, venison, deer skins, bacon, cattle, and hogs. These were generally to be taken "at current market price." In communities where such could be done, teachers often loaded this produce on a flat boat and took it to New Orleans. In some cases it was sold to local dealers. In addition to the small income from taxes to support the earlier schools, parents paid an additional fee, according to the number of pupils attending from their home. The above-described schools should be thought of as the first regularly organized districts and not necessarily as the first schools existing in the county. It is recorded that an old sailor named Pittulo was teaching in the vicinity of Golconda in 1800, and that he taught some years thereafter in the same vicinity. It was this teacher that gave the name of Fiddler's Green to the tavern built at the site of Golconda, in 1798, by Major James Lusk. This man "boarded around;" that is, he went from home to home for various lengths of time, staying at each place somewhat according to the number of pupils attending from there. He thus stayed twice as long at a place where there were four pupils as at

where there were only two. This teacher received most of his salary in skins and pelts which he converted into money by selling them to fur dealers who came to the town once or twice a year. He also added to his income by selling vegetables to keel boat men.

The schools of the early day differed greatly from those of the present day. They were generally log houses. Sometimes the house would be a settler's deserted cabin. One such school standing until recently and typical of the schools at that time may well be described in order that the reader may visualize others.

This house was built in 1838 of logs that had been smoothed on two sides. In size it was about 16 by 20 feet. It was chinked with short pieces split from blocks, and daubed with a mixture of clay and lime. The finished walls, both inside and outside, were the logs with their chinking and daubing. The floor was made of puncheons, that is, slabs split from a large log. These slabs were smoothed on one side by the use of a broad ax or adz and the edges straightened. Such floors were somewhat rough and open, but they were substantial. In some early school houses no floor was made, the earth being used instead. The roof was made of clapboards that had been rived from some convenient oak tree. Because of the scarcity of nails, it was not unusual to have a roof of this kind held on by weight poles; that is, a course of boards was laid and held in place by a pole. These poles were fastened with hickory withes or perhaps pegged in place.

In some instances these school houses had no ceilings. Wherever a ceiling was found, it often consisted of long clapboards, perhaps four or six feet long, laid on log joists. It was not unusual for one to look upward in one of these school houses and see through both the ceiling and the roof.

Such buildings were heated by fire places, built in the side or in the end of the house. These fire places were built of stone or more often of logs lined with stone and clay, and had a stick-and-clay chimney. These stick-and-clay chimneys were simple pens of double walls extending to about the roof level. They were plastered inside and out with clay in order that the chimney would not burn down. It was not unusual to see places where the clay had crumbled away from the sticks and a hole had been burned. These fire places were no puny affairs and often accommodated logs four feet or more in length. It was occasionally a part of the teacher's task to provide the necessary fire wood. This was not so bad as it sounds, perhaps, since the forest nearby provided a source of timber.

In the old building mentioned in a previous paragraph, there were two windows, one in each end, about two feet wide and four feet high. These windows and the light from the fireplace provided the illumination. On dark days it must have been a dimly lighted school room.

Seats for the school room were made from logs that were split in half. The split surface was smoothed, holes were bored in the rounded side, and pegs of suitable length to provide seats for pupils of different sizes were inserted to serve as legs. There were no backs to these seats and no desks on which the books might be placed or writing done. The writing desk was generally a smooth slab placed on large wooden pins set in the wall. Pupils who wished to write went to this desk. Sometimes two writing desks of different heights were provided for the larger and the smaller pupils. At other times, the shorter pupils had to stand on a block or some other object to bring them up to the level of the desk. Fools cap paper was in common use and derived its name from the fact that teachers sometimes fashioned a pointed cap from it and placed it on the head of some pupil who did not learn his lesson in a satisfactory manner.

On a shelf near the doorway one found the water bucket. This wooden bucket and the ever-present handled gourd for use as a dipper were standard equipment. "Going after a bucket of water" was almost always a welcome escape from regular schoolroom work. These trips to the well or spring, often as far as a quarter of a mile away, were never more hurried than the teacher demanded that they be.

If any writing was done in the seat where the pupil sat, he used a slate. By to-day's standards, these slates were rather unsanitary, for after a child had written on a slate, it had to be erased. He accomplished this by spitting rather liberally on the slate and using the palm of his hand to remove the writing. In order to

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dry any surplus moisture, the sleeve of the forearm was sometimes used. For pens and ink, the source of supply was local. Ink was made of oak galls and copperas. Pens were made from the wing feathers of geese. It was not unusual for the teacher's ability to make pens from these feathers to be considered one of his major qualifications for the job. Writing paper was more expensive and was not so freely used as at the present time.

The games the pupils played were usually those in which the skill or the strength of the individual counted most. They were not the organized games known today. They included bull pen, wolf on the ridge, hat ball, old sow, shinny, cat, sling dutch, move up, lap jacket, leap frog, one-and-over, stink base, and whipcracker. Most of these games were much too vigorous and rough for the girls, who were sometimes admitted to such games as cat or wolf-on-the-ridge. Generally, however, the girls played ante over — often called andy over—London Bridge, drop the handkerchief, rope skipping, or some form of singing game. Some of the games played by the boys were rather trying to those who engaged in them. An illustration of such a game was the one known as lap jacket. In this game, each one of the pair engaging secured a switch, often a handful of the buckberry shrub that grew along the fence rows. They then clasped left hands and proceeded to switch each other thoroughly. Though the game was known as lap jacket, the rules generally required that the switching be done above the knees and below the waist.

These switchings were often severe, and the contestants left the game considerably striped. Should one of the contestants decide that he had been "bested", he indicated the same by a pre-arranged call, like "enough" or "calf rope." A simple cry of "oh" was also regarded as a surrender. A simple description of the games then played but now practically forgotten would take half the space of a book of this size.

On some of the Friday nights there were spelling matches or meetings of a literary society. In the spelling matches, two captains chose sides, naturally beginning with the best spellers available, and dividing all contestants into two numerically equal groups. It was not long until the poorer spellers were eliminated, since a contestant must "set down" when he missed a word. As the number of spellers yet in the contest grew less, the interest mounted, reaching its climax when only two were left. The one who could "spell down the school" enjoyed quite a reputation, being much admired by some and perhaps cordially despised by others. At times, instead of two captains choosing the team, a speller, usually a poor one, was designated to start the contest. He naturally chose an opponent that he thought he could outspell. The survivor in turn chose another opponent. This was continued until only two were left. The results arrived at in each case were the same.

In the case of the literary societies, one could expect a paper somewhat like a newspaper in its comments upon local events and persons.

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This was generally meant to be humorous. By some of the comments on local incidents and persons, ill feelings were aroused. There were always recitations or declamations, a few songs, perhaps a dialogue or two, and often a paper—by the standard then used, a learned one. After this, there was generally a debate in which teams were pitted against each other and before judges chosen from the group assembled. Questions for debate were "Resolved that pursuit is more pleasant than possession;" "Resolved that water is more useful than fire;" "Resolved that Lincoln was greater than Washington;" "Resolved that the American Indian has been mistreated;" or some other such subject. In these debates many a young man received a training that afterwards helped him as a minister, as a lawyer, or as some other servant in public life.

Another type of meeting held in the school houses was the singing school. In these schools the singing master often came into the community as an itinerant and remained to teach a school. His equipment for this work consisted of nothing more than a tuning fork, an ability to sing, a few song books, and a chart on which some bars of music were written. In these schools the young people of the community learned to sing and to enjoy the social aspects of their lives, for, naturally, after the school, the girls were "seen safely home." These singing schools were continued until recent years. Uncle Burton Holloway, of Eddyville, now past eighty years old, is one of the men remaining who taught many such singing schools.

Another school, similar to the singing school already mentioned, was the writing school. This, like the singing school, was a subscription affair, open to all those who would pay a fee for the privilege of attending. The penmanship taught was commonly referred to as Spencerian and had many a flourish and scroll. Old copy books from that period are yet to be found in trunks and attics. They are admired for the excellent figures, flourishes, and fancy lettering they exhibit.

In the matter of text books there was little uniformity. The one book that was deemed an essential for every pupil was a spelling book. Almost without exception this was Webster's Blue Back Speller. A little later, with the advent of McGuffey's Readers, more uniformity in the matter of readers came. In the earlier schools it was not uncommon for the pupil to bring whatever reading material the home afforded. This might be a Bible, Rollin's Ancient History, a newspaper, or almost any other book in circulation in that section. There were few arithmetic texts; hence these books were generally made by the teacher or pupil. Numerous home made texts are yet to be found in attics and old trunks. One was thought to be a good mathematician when he could "cipher to the double rule of three"—that is, compound proportions. For the more advanced pupils, grammar became an important subject. From it, they not only learned the fundamental structures of the language but also developed an ability to reason and to argue.

Art, as it exists in public schools to-day, was banned. The little bit of such work done was that which the pupil did while the teacher was not looking. At times he even used the teacher as the subject for his not-too-complimentary sketches. Some decorative penmanship in which birds were prominent was expected at almost any school. Work of this type was done by the more skillful of the students in the writing classes mentioned earlier.

Physiology and hygiene were then practically unknown. Geography was often very sketchy, and sometimes the book used was a small one with an accompanying book of maps. The text in geography was unvarying in its methods of treatment of different countries. History was rather briefly dealt with and seemed to emphasize war more than anything else. Except for those who were to become lawyers, doctors, ministers or teachers, a rudimentary knowledge of the Three R's—"reading, riting, and rithmetic"—was about all that was considered essential.

In many of the earlier schools, the pupils were encouraged to study aloud, and the hum of the school could be heard for a great distance. It was thought to be the best way for a pupil to learn. It also enabled the teacher to tell whether the pupil was actively at work. A teacher soon became like a trained choir leader, rather capable of selecting and listening to almost any voice he chose. Since all were studying aloud, the noise did not bother anyone particularly.

Most of the teachers of the early day were men. They were often itinerants, teaching a term or two in a place and moving on. In addition to a rudimentary knowledge of the common subjects, one of the qualifications deemed essential at that time was the ability to inflict corporal punishment. The idea of "no licking, no larning" was generally accepted. On a peg behind his desk the teacher kept the switches necessary to apply the corporal punishment in the approved manner. The pupil who did not receive an occasional flogging was looked upon as unusual. Many a pupil thought the day had been lost if he did not receive a reasonable switching. Women teachers were an exception, but an occasional one with more daring, tact, and ingenuity than the average, became well known for her successful work. It is a far cry from those schools to the ones of this day. Their defects and limitations were glaring; yet they are not to be laughed to scorn. They produced the men and women who made America great. Perhaps their stern regime was not so badly fitted to the world in which they existed. No thinking person would wish to call them back, but that same person will look upon them as the rather solid foundation upon which the schools of today are built.

A careful study of the early reports of the schools in Pope County reveals much interesting information concerning early schools, but the space available here limits the amount of such information.

GRIST MILLS

One of the first tradesmen to operate in any regular way in the frontier settlement was the miller. The citizens required bread; and to supply that universal need, grist mills soon appeared. Before the arrival of a miller, each family was forced to contrive in some manner for the preparation of its breadstuff. Different methods were employed. In the Midwest, corn was in general use for breadstuff before wheat came into use. One of the very earliest methods of preparing cornmeal was the use of the stone mortar and pestle, the Indian mill. Into the smooth hollow of the mortar, a small quantity of corn was placed. This corn was crushed by pounding and grinding with a smooth ended stone. Meal produced in this manner was not so fine or so smooth in texture as cornmeal of today. It contained more small particles of stone and more bran than the meal of to-day. Nevertheless, it was a simple way to produce breadstuff.

Another early method of making meal was an adaption from the stone mortar and pestle. In this adaption, a section of a log or the top of a stump was hollowed out by burning or by gouging with a chisel or a sharp stone. If it were a section of a log that had been hollowed out, this section would be placed upright in the ground with the hollowed end up, and at a convenient height. The log might be eighteen inches or more in diameter. The hole that had been hollowed out sometimes held a peck or more of shelled corn A rather heavy section of a log, with a roun-

ded end that fitted rather snugly within the hollow of the section first mentioned, was then used in place of the stone pestle of the Indian Mill. Since this pestle was too heavy to be handled by one person, it was suspended from the limb of a tree or end of a limber pole. By this method the pestle could be forcibly brought down upon the grain in the hollow of the mortar The springiness of the limb would then hoist the pestle for the next stroke. These mills were in common use by isolated settlers.

Another device used by the pioneers was a grater. For a grater, a sheet of metal, often from a can or bucket, was perforated by a hammer and a sharpened nail. The metal sheet was then bent into an approximate half oval, the rough side out, and attached to a board. The lower end of this board was placed in a pan or upon some smooth surface like a table top. Held in this position the ear of corn was rubbed across the roughened metal. This action produced meal, but somewhat slowly. The grater was most commonly used in the fall of the year with corn not fully hardened. Some people looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to the first bread to be made each fall from "gritted" meal.

The next step in the development of the mill was the hand mill. These mills included two small but otherwise regular millstones. Into the top of the upper stone, a shallow hole was drilled near the edge, and the end of a staff set into it. The upper end of this staff was then attached to the limb of a tree or to

some overhead timber in the house. While one person might operate such a mill, two generally worked at it. Both helped in turning the crank. One of the operators poured corn into the center hole in the upper stone. As the corn worked its way to the edges of these stones, it was ground into meal and fell upon the table or stump. Though this mill was not so good nor so productive as the mills operated by horse or water power, it was an advance over the mortar and pestle, or the Indian type of mill.

Another type of mill that came into early use was the band mill. This mill was operated by horse or ox power. An upright shaft was set up, perhaps fifteen or twenty feet from the mill stones. Cross arms were attached to this shaft, and a wheel closely set with upright pegs built upon them. Around these pegs and around a wheel on a shaft rising from the upper millstone, a twisted rawhide belt was passed. As the horse or ox walked around, the main shaft was turned. By means of the rawhide belt, the shaft moving the millstones was turned. By the use of a smaller wheel on the mill stone shaft and a larger one on the main or drive shaft, the turning of the stones could be speeded up. Some mills were operated by means of gears made by setting pegs in wheels attached to shafts. This allowed various arrangements to be made for connecting the powered shaft to the shaft moving the millstone. It also made the use of the treadmill for horses or oxen more practicable.

The mills described heretofore were generally smaller ones. What may be thought of as the next step in the development of the grist mill was the machines operated by water power. These were located upon streams where sufficient fall and volume of water furnished necessary power.

In the operation of these mills, three types of wheels were used. The most picturesque one and the one with the appearance of which most people are familiar, was the overshot wheel. In this one, the water passed over the top of the wheel, and its weight for the entire fall over the wheel was used. A second type was the breast or undershot wheel. In this one, the water flowed against the wheel at or below the center of its height and passed thence beneath the wheel. This wheel did not require so great a fall of water as did the overshot but did require more water to secure the same amount of power. The breast or undershot wheel was also picturesque in appearance but hardly so picturesque as was the overshot. The turbine was the least picturesque of the three wheels but was perhaps the most efficient one. This type was enclosed in a circular box into which water was admitted at the top, and from which it escaped only by the movement of the vanes of the wheel into the open space in the lower part of the box. It operated in the same manner as the meter which measures the amount of water used by a householder in any city.

Because suitable sites for water-mills were not plentiful and, when found, were often remote from set-

tlements, they were forced to give way to steam powered mills when such became available, but the steam mills can never replace the legend of the watermill.

"Going to mill' was a somewhat significant event. The sacks of shelled corn were loaded into an ox wagon or placed across the back of a horse, and the trip began. Since it was often necessary to go several miles, the start was generally made before daybreak. Upon arrival at the mill, one found others already there. He then "waited his turn." This often required an all-day wait —and sometimes longer.

This waiting was not always unpleasant. It afforded an opportunity to meet and get acquainted with other settlers, to learn of the happenings for many miles around, or even to glean news of national events. When boys were sent to mill, they often used the waiting time to play with other boys there on similar missions. They sometimes swam, or fished in the millpond, or roamed over the surrounding countryside or in the woodland. In this manner, the tedium of waiting was lessened.

These mills sometimes provided a meeting place for the militia when all able-bodied men of military age were required to meet for regular drill and be ready to defend the settlement against the Indians or other sources of danger. Sometimes elections were also held at these mills. Pioneer merchants found such places desirable spots for the location of their stores. Other tradesmen sometimes located nearby. The pioneer distillery was served by the gristmill and so was usually located near one. Often the same person operated both the mill and the distillery. Thus it can be seen that the gristmill was more than a mere place to grind corn into meal. It was the center around which numerous activities gathered. These early mills were sometimes combined grist and saw mills.

Pope County had its quota of early mills. The springs and creeks in the more hilly sections provided some excellent sites. These first mills are often difficult to locate with reasonable exactness, however; neither is it easy, definitely, to fix the years they were in operation. The Reverend John Crawford, then a boy who moved with his father to a place on Grand Pierre Creek near its mouth, in 1808, tells in his writings that they were forced for some years to cross the Ohio and travel about twenty miles into the State of Kentucky to a horse mill, to have corn ground into meal. This indicates that no such mills were accessible in that region.

One of the earlier mills mentioned in the county records is that of Ransom Peters, in June, 1817. This mill is mentioned again on August 22, 1818, when a jury was appointed to view a mill seat for Peters on a "fork of Lusk Creek." At the same time, a jury was appointed to view a mill seat for William Cowan on Lusk Creek. In 1821, a similar jury was appointed to view a mill seat on Big Creek in Section 22 T11s, R8E, for a man named Spyars Singleton. On July 4, 1821, a man named Smith had a mill on Big Creek, "near where Simon Armstrong now lives." A man

named Chipps operated a mill on Grand Pierre in 1825, but its location is not indicated by the county records. At this same time mention is made of Twitchell's Mill, then in Pope County, but later in Hardin. This mill was of more than ordinary significance and operated for a number of years. Another watermill was located near Porter's Ford across Lusk Creek, about three miles north of Waltersburg. It served the people over a considerable area and became a somewhat important business center. Robert M. Hamilton, seventy-six years old, told in 1945 of having played about this mill as a boy. He jokingly said that a hungry boy could eat the meal as rapidly as the mill ground it—at least, until he starved to death.

A few years later a German immigrant named Wolrab established a mill in what is present-day Hardin County. This mill operated successfully for many years. It was one of the last watermills to exist in Southern Illinois. Its story will be told more fully in the Hardin County Notes.

Other mills followed, some being watermills and some, steam. A man named William Drumm operated mills in the vicinity of present-day Herod. His mill, with an undershot wheel, was located on Grand Pierre Creek, at the lower end of the mill-pond or lake that is still to be seen. Some of the timbers of this mill are yet found embedded in the earth at the millsite. Later, Drumm moved his mill to Gibbon's Creek, south of Herod. In addition to having been a miller, he is recalled by older persons as an excellent old time fiddler.

Another mill was operated by Joseph Broadway on Hayes Creek, southwest of Eddyville. This mill was one of the largest watermills in Pope County, grinding as much as one hundred twenty-five bushels of grain in a day. It was in operation from about 1875 to 1876, perhaps longer. According to local tradition, it ground only corn.

Another early mill was located on Lusk Creek about one and one half miles west of Raum, where the old roadway from Lusk's Ferry to Frankfort crossed the stream. Still another was located about two miles northwest of Brownfield, but it is not known by what power it was operated. According to tradition, this mill was at one time operated by a man named Bagly and was both a sawmill and a gristmill. The name of Bagly is also associated with a mill that stood near Glendale. According to local reports, this mill was operated by steam power. The mill was once owned by a man named George Kimbell—or Kimmel—and began operation about 1869.

Still another watermill, a mile or so southwest of Lusk, was established by Columbus Wilson. This mill was sold to Riley Barker and later passed into the possession of Nelson Conley. After he sold the mill to Barker, Wilson went to Eddyville and there operated a grist and sawmill and later a wool mill. This wool mill was still later moved to a pond about a half mile west of the village.

The first mill to operate in the vicinity of present day Eddyville was a horse mill that was located on Frieze Hill. This mill was operated

by Eddie Fulgham. It is said that it was a small affair, some twelve or fourteen feet square, and that the shaft to which the horse was hitched was fifty feet or so from the building. The power was transmitted by a belt. The next mill at Eddyville was operated by James Mason, at the lower pond on the east side of the present roadway. This was a steam mill which ground both meal and flour and had sieves for bolting. Tom Cullom later secured it and moved it into Eddyville. With the improvements made by Cullom, it became an excellent mill. Numerous other small mills were in operation at various times and places in the county.

These, in brief, are some of the highlights of the story of milling in Pope County. They do not include accounts of the many sawmills that have operated in countless places since the task of clearing away the forests began.

SLAVERY AND NEGRO SERVITUDE

A great deal of interesting information lies unnoted in the county records of Southern Illinois. In searching these records for data concerning the history of various counties, the author has found numerous references to slavery and to other forms of negro servitude in this section of the state. The most valuable information is, of course, to be found in the records of the older counties. For example, a careful inspection of the first four deed books of Pope County reveals many recordings concerning negro slaves and servants. A part of the information gathered from these books is presented here in the belief that it will prove helpful to those interested in the history of slavery in Southern Illinois, for the Pope County records are typical of those in other older counties of this part of the state. These records reveal that the practices relating to slavery in Southern Illinois, did not conform to the statutes enacted for its regulation. They also indicate that public officials were aware of the inconsistencies, even participating in them.

It may be well here to view briefly the general history of slavery in Illinois. With such knowledge in mind, the information regarding inconsistencies may be better understood.

It appears that the first negro slaves of present-day Illinois were those brought from San Domingo, by Phillippe Francois Renault. These slaves, numbering several hundred, reached Illinois about 1720, perhaps in the latter part of 1719. Some of them were used in Renault's mining ventures in northwestern Illinois and in Missouri. Others were used in farming operations about the now-vanished village of St. Phillippe, in Monroe County. In addition to these imported slaves, a number of Indians were also held in bondage. However, the total number of slaves held in the territory seems to have shown little increase after 1720. According to the Jesuit Relations, records kept by the Jesuit priests, there were only 300 negroes and 60 Indians held as slaves in 1750.

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When this territory was ceded to England in 1763, the English did not interfere with the practice of slavery. Hence, when Virginia came into possession of the territory now included in Illinois, at the end of the Revolutionary War, nothing was done to restrict the existing practice. When Virginia ceded the territory to the newly-formed federal government, she stipulated that the French, the Canadians, and other inhabitants of Kaskaskia and of other villages in the territory should be allowed to retain their properties and "ancient privileges." The Ordinance of 1787 provided that there should be no slavery nor involuntary servitude "otherwise than in the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." However, both Governor St. Clair, of the Northwest Territory and Governor Harrison, of the Indiana Territory, held that this did not affect slaves held in the territory prior to 1787, but both agreed that additional slaves could not be brought in. The law barring introduction of more slaves was evaded by the practice of indenturing negroes brought in after the ban had been placed.

Indiana Territory, of which Illinois was then a part, legalized this practice by action of the Governing Council and by action of the territorial legislature, in 1803, 1805, and 1807. By these acts it was legally permissible to indenture negro men up to the age of thirty-five and negro women up to that of thirty-two years, though indentures were generally for longer terms, on some occasions for as long as ninety-nine years. These

regulations were adopted by Illinois Territory upon its separation from Indiana, in 1816.

The Illinois Constitution of 1818 forbade slavery, but it did not regulate specifically against the slavery already established. To evade this provision of the new constitution, the practice of indenturing was continued, but it was legal to indenture a servant for only one year. In some instances the constitutional provision against slavery was simply ignored. Children born to indentured negro servants could be indentured, the boys until they were twenty one years old and the girls until they were eighteen. Few paid heed to this limit of time. Indentures already in force were not interfered with in any way.

The legislature of the new state in March, 1819, re-enacted the principles of the earlier territorial laws. These laws passed by the first General Assembly became known as the Black Laws. Under the provision of this act, a negro could not become a resident of the state unless he had a certificate of freedom from a court of record. Without such a certificate, the negro could be sold for one year. Should he have the required certificate and be admitted to the state, he still could not bring suit, testify in court when a white person was concerned, or vote; nor was he allowed to travel, except in very restricted areas. The whole plan seems to have been intended to drive free negroes into voluntary indentures. The colored person's plight was indeed a sorry one.

Travelers crossing Illinois with their slaves and other property often expressed a desire to settle, but some hesitated to do so because of the ban on slavery. This situation led those citizens of Illinois who favored slavery to demand a convention to amend the State Constitution and make slavery legal. Such a convention was voted by the Legislature in 1824. In the general election that followed, August 2, 1824, there were 4,972 votes for slavery and 6,640 against it. Pope County cast 273 votes for and 124 against.

This election did not end slavery in Illinois. In some counties, principally in the southern part of the state, indentured servants and slaves were held after 1824. This is shown by numerous certificates of freedom executed after that date. Though the insitution of slavery was definitely disappearing, the general attitude toward the negro could hardly be termed favorable.

In 1862, the people of Illinois voted, by a majority of 100,000, to refuse admission to negroes. At the same time they voted, by a majority of 176,000, to prohibit negroes from voting or holding office. In 1862, a negro in Hancock County was arrested for being in the state ten days and intending to remain permanently. He was found guilty and fined. Interested citizens appealed his case to the State Supreme Court, which in 1864 upheld the verdict of the lower court.

Such incidents as these reveal more clearly, perhaps, the general feeling towards negroes than does the fact that the legislative acts of 1865 ratified the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution and repealed the "Black Laws" of 1819 and similar laws added in 1853.

The forgoing brief outline of the general history of slavery and the treatment of negroes in the State of Illinois, furnishes a background for a more detailed study of negro servitude in Pope County. The first entry concerning a negro servant in the records at Golconda is a document filed on June 25, 1816, about six months after the formation of the county. By this indenture, Silvey, a negro woman about twenty-four years of age, had, on June 22, 1815, bound herself to serve John Morris of Gallatin County, then including portions of Pope, "for a term of forty years next ensuing." Silvey received "$400.00 in hand paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged." She was also to receive "good and sufficient meat, drink, lodging, and apparel, together with all other needful conveniences fit for such a servant." Silvey pledged herself "faithfully to serve, obey, not absent herself from her work and not to embezzle or waste or lend her master's property." With this indenture, a bond was filed and signed by John Morris, and one surety, guaranteeing that Silvey would not become a public charge of Pope County. Except for length of service pledged, this indenture complied with the law of Illinois Territory at that time. In its form it is typical of such contracts.

In the majority of indentures recorded, an entry similar to the one where Silvey acknowledges the receipt of a certain sum of money, "in

hand, paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged" will be found. It is seriously to be doubted whether the negro actually received the money.

The second entry noted on the records of the county was a "Bill of Bargain and Sale" that states,

"Know ye all men by these presents that I, Jessie Jones, of the State of Kentucky and county of Galdwell, have this day bargained and sold and delivered unto Thomas Ferguson of Illinois Territory and County of Johnson, a certain negro man named Jeffery about 30 years of age, and for consideration of the sum of five-hundred and twenty-five dollars."

This bill of sale was filed in the office of Joshua Scott, recorder of Pope County, on November 28, 1816. Since this document is an outright bill of sale, it did not conform to the legal requirements of Illinois Territory. A later paragraph will indicate the manner in which this apparent failure was rectified.

The next entry noted concerning a servant in the records of the county is an indenture acknowledged before Wm. Greenup, County Clerk of Randolph County, and dated December 17, 1810. It was not recorded in Pope County, until November 28, 1816. By this indenture, similar in form to the one between John Morris of Gallatin County and the negro woman named Silvey, George, a negro man about twenty-one years of age, for a consideration of "Five hundred dollars, lawful money of the United States" bound himself to serve David J. Black for the term of sixty

years. It will be noted that this indenture exceeds the legal limit by forty-seven years.

The next entry indicates a method approximating outright slave trade in the Illinois Territory, since the consent of the servant is not indicated as having been secured. In this case, Louis LaChapelle of Randolph County had Isaac, a negro man about twenty-three years of age, bound to him for a period of forty years for an indicated consideration of $500. This indenture was acknowledged before Wm. Greenup, County Clerk of Randolph County, Illinois, on February 3, 1815. La Chapelle then made a notation on the indenture as follows—

"For value receive (sic) I assign over all my write (sic) to the within indenter (sic) unto Thomas Ferguson and hath (sic) this day delivered the above indentere (sic) servant as the above indenters (sic) calls for as witness and seal this 7th day of June, 1815. L. Chapelle."

Another record indicates the outright purchase of a slave by Thomas Ferguson, a citizen of Pope County. This slave, Toney, had been purchased by Richard Thomas Porter of Edgecomb County, in North Carolina, for "200 pounds currency of North Carolina." Porter was "to have and hold forever." Then on April 26, 1809, the following transaction was recorded; "For value received, I, Richard Thomas Porter— do assign over all my writ (sic)— to Thomas Ferguson."—Porter also "will warrant and defend title." This transaction evidently took place in

Pope County, since it was acknowledged before Joshua Scott, who was then serving as county clerk.

David Black then appeared with a "slave" named George, whom he had purchased from Thomas Dunderson of Christian County, Kentucky, on November 19, 1810, for $400.00. This slave was sold to Thomas Ferguson on April 2, 1811. In the next recorded transaction, Wiley Davis of Eddyville, Kentucky, assigned his interest in Letty, a "slave" about twenty years old, and son about one year ten months old, to Ferguson. In the following entry, Ferguson bound a negro named Anthony for thirty years in return for "a certain lot numbered 163 in Sarahville"—now Golconda. Anthony was to have immediate possession and "enjoy the rents and profits" during his term of servitude. The value of these lots must have been negligible, since lots 161 and 168, fully as well located, sold within a year from the time of Anthony's indenture for $3.00 each. On July 17, 1816, Jeffery, mentioned in the second entry on the county records and previously referred to as having been "bought" from Jesse Jones by Thomas Ferguson, voluntarily bound himself to Ferguson for a period of thirty years for lot numbered 167. This lot was not transferred to Jeffery until December 1, 1821, more than five years after he had signed the indenture. On July 27, 1816, Lettie or Lettice, a negro woman about twenty-eight years old, was bound to Thomas Ferguson for a period of thirty years for lot numbered 166 in Sarahville. The lot mentioned was not transferred to Lettie until December 1, 1821. Next is a bill

of sale whereby John Ditterline, on December 18, 1816, transferred his rights to Mary, "A slave for life," to Ferguson, for a consideration of $500.00. This transaction took place in Pope County, as evidenced by its acknowledgment before Joshua Scott, County Clerk for Pope County.

In April 1817, Anthony, Lettie, Jeffery, and George agreed to go to Missouri Territory with Ferguson. If this trip was made as indicated, it would appear that Lettie and Jeffery were later safely returned to Illinois, since lots 166 and 167 were transferred to them on December 1, 1821, but no later mention of either Anthony or George is found on the records.

Other indentures followed. Betty, a negro woman about twenty-two years of age, bound herself to Samuel Langdon for a period of sixty years, for a consideration of $400.00. This indenture was acknowledged before Robert Lacey, Judge of the County Court, on February 8, 1817. Nancy Williams, a negro woman from Missouri Territory, bound herself to Jacob Robinson for a term of twenty years for a consideration of $500.00. This indenture was executed before Joshua Scott, County Clerk of Pope County. In April, 1817, Daniel and Vina bound themselves to Joshua Scott, county recorder, for forty years. The consideration named in each case was $400.00. These indentures for Daniel and Vina were acknowledged before Joshua Scott, county clerk, to whom they were also bound. Both indentures were witnessed by Prudence M. Rose and Polly Pankey.

On August 20, 1817, Anny bound herself to Isom Clay for sixteen years for a consideration of $400.00. One week later, David Turner and Millie, both "late out of Jefferson County, Virginia," bound themselves to David Cowan for fifty years. A consideration of $400.00 is named in each case. On January 6, 1818, Judith, about seventeen years old, "last (sic) of the territory of Missouri," bound herself to William Wilson of Pope County, Illinois Territory, for a period of ninety-nine years. For this term of service she is supposed to have received $400.00. On February 13, 1818, Linda, a Negro woman about nineteen years old, "last (sic) out of Missouri Territory" likewise bound herself to William Wilson for a period of ninety-nine years for a named consideration of $400.00. These indentures would have expired on February 13, 1917.

A negro boy named Anthony, about eighteen years old, was sold on December 14, 1820, by John Henry of Pope County to Elizabeth Henry of Logan County, Kentucky, for the sum of $612.00. This bill of sale was certified by Craven P. Hester, a Justice of the Peace for Pope County. This definitely indicates that the sale took place in Illinois. It should be noted that Anthony had not previously appeared in the records of the county as a slave.

According to tradition, and occasionally by written implication, other outright sales of slaves occurred in Pope County after the admission of Illinois to statehood. One instance that indicates an outright sale was the settlement of the estate of Larkin Kesterson, who died on May 25, 1829. In his will, Kesterson provided "that his said executor shall sell his two negro men, Macklin, and Frank, together." This provision of the will was carried out by Robert Kesterson, father of the deceased and executor of his will, when the negroes were sold in November 1829 for $325.00. It should also be noted that Macklin and Frank were not previously recorded in the circuit clerk's records as slaves.

These instances of unrecorded slaves held by Kesterson, as well as the case of Anthony, cited in the preceding paragraph, coupled with unverified traditions, would seem to indicate that there were numerous other slaves owned in Pope County. Negro indentures were not found on the deed records of the Circuit Clerk's office after this date, though they are referred to in other county records.

A new turn of affairs is indicated in an entry dated August 19, 1823. At that time, William Beam emancipated and issued certificates of freedom to twelve slaves as listed below:

Abraham—about sixteen years old.
Martin—nine years old.
Gilbert—about twenty-one years old.
Cunningham—about eight years old.
Sam—about twelve years old.
Thomas—nine years old.
Hetty—six years old.
Lotty—about seventeen years old.
Nelly—about forty years old.
Rody—about thirteen years old.

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Luckey—about twenty-two years old.

Nancy—about sixteen years old.

These are the first emancipations found recorded in Pope County. The certificates are signed by Beam, with his mark, and are witnessed by Edmund Richmond.

The next recorded emancipations were made on February 13, 1830, when Wiley Jones granted freedom to "Chaney, a woman of color, about twenty-six years old, of low stature" and to her children, Anne, Judah, James, and Alfred. All this was "for and in consideration of faithful service." The emancipations made by Beam and Jones were evidently to slaves or servants held in Pope County.

The records of Fannie Mac, "A woman of color" and of her son "A man of color" are somewhat singular. Fannie Mac purchased her son, Caesar, a slave, from Stephen Smelser of Calway County, Kentucky, for the sum of $550.00. A short time afterwards, that is, on January 29, 1836, she, "for love and affection," emancipated Caesar. During the intervening period, Fannie Mac thus held her own son as a slave.

A slightly different case was that of a slave named Lewis, brought from Arkansas to Pope County for the express purpose of emancipation, on March 15, 1838. The next year a somewhat similar case is found in which Eli Roden of Pope County, formerly of Arkansas, emancipated "Mary Ann, a woman of color, a slave" and her children, Melvina about four years old, Margaretta about three years, and Henrietta about one year old.

David A. Smith, on March 22, 1817, secured the approval of an Alabama Court and freed his slaves William, William's wife, Isabel, and their six children.

These certificates of freedom were filed for record in Pope County on November 22, 1838.

Other certificates of freedom for former slaves appear on later Pope County records. Thus, on May 10, 1845, "Moses, a man of color", after extended and complicated legal procedures, established the fact that he had purchased his freedom, along with that of his wife and son, from their Tennessee owner for $1,450.00. In these proceedings, Moses was represented by "next friend" John Stephenson. These certificates were filed in Pope County and indicate that these Negroes became residents there.

On the same date, May 10, 1845, "Jerry, a colored man," filed his certificate of freedom in Pope County after he had failed to secure passage to Liberia, from Hardeman County, Tennessee. On May 27 of the same year, Winnie, who had, after involved court procedures in Missouri and in Kentucky, won her freedom, filed the certificate in the office of the recorder in Pope County. The records in this case cover some ten pages and indicate that Winnie had been held illegally in slavery for some years.

Slaves were evidently held in Pope County until a comparatively late date. This is indicated by the fact

that Lucinda, and her eight children, indicated as "slaves", were freed by the will of Wm. R. Adams, on December 28, 1846.

One of the most interesting certificates filed during this period is the one by Matthew Scott, on September 22, 1846. In this certificate, the freedom of Scott and his family, consisting of a wife and nine children, is established along with the fact that Scott had received a military discharge from the "company of Captain William McCalley in the General Jackson War."

On July 31, 1850, Patsey, who had been born free in Virginia, established the fact in Pope County by registering her certificate in the recorder's office. On the same day, Theodore Mundle, through an affidavit filed by Robert T. Leeper, established the fact that he was a free Negro and had lived with his mother in the county for the past five years.

In the inspection made, no latter records of certificates of freedom were found on the records for Pope County.

In all cases concerning the freeing of slaves, a somewhat detailed description is given. This procedure was used so that the one emancipated could be readily identified. In the case of slaves or servants brought into the state and indentured, it was required that bonds be furnished, guaranteeing that such Negroes would not become a public charge of the county. Laws of the period also required that similar bonds be filed for Negroes being emancipated. In some instances this requirement

was fulfilled. In other instances no record of a bond occurs. It was in compliance with this demand that William Beam, on August 19, 1823, filed bond for $13,000.00 with the County Court.

The foregoing instances are cited as being indicative of the course of slavery in a typical Southern Illinois county. Other uncited records of slaves and indentured servants are to be found in various Pope County records. A rather careful search fails to reveal the later disposition of those bound to a term of service. The records do not show that these servants and slaves were freed when the periods for which they were bound expired. Tradition likewise fails to provide an answer.

FLATHEADS AND REGULATORS

The pioneer was often a venturesome and independent individual. This was natural, too, since the wild and unsettled sections appealed most strongly to such persons. Because these early settlers were as they were, and lived in an area where organized local government and law enforcement facilities had not come to function too well, it is not strange that the more law abiding settlers became impatient with the law breakers whose actions were injurious or disturbing. This often led to independent, or extra-legal groups, organized to enforce their conception of law. The history of the entire West is replete with examples of these groups.

When such groups were organized and began to function in any area, it was not unusual to find the more lawless elements strengthening their own organizations. There would thus be two opposing but equally determined groups. These conditions led to a state that resembled a local civil war in this county. The law enforcement groups sometimes began the use of what might easily be termed extra-legal methods, and passed beyond the control of the more conservative element that had promoted their organization. Some then began to use the group to promote their own purposes, or to visit punishment upon those they disliked.

Such practices made for two groups that were almost equally lawless in their methods and objectives. Instead of a law enforcement group and a definitely lawless gang, there were two gangs about equally lawless in their methods. Pope County affords a typical example of this course of events.

Though the operations of the groups, known as Flatheads and Regulators, covered more than Pope County, it appears that their beginning in Southern Illinois was in the county of Pope as it was then constituted. It also appears that, in the beginning, the Flatheads were recruited mostly from the more lawless part of the population, and that the Regulators came from those who wished to see a more efficient enforcement of the law. The conditions leading to the organization of the Regulators may be attributed to the inability or lack of desire of the regularly constituted authorities to perform their duties.

One of the first incidents that indicated the alignment of the groups that were later to wage what was almost a civil war, was that having to do with a group led by a man named Sturdevant, and centering about a blockhouse he had erected in what was then a part of Pope but now of Hardin County. Around this place a group of counterfeiters are said to have operated. The exact location of Sturdevant's fort is not known, but on October 17, 1820, a man named Roswell Sturdevant deeded a part of Sec. 2, T12S, R8E to Samuel O'Melvaney. This deed was witnessed by James Steel and Merrick Sturdevant. This description applies to land about where Rosiclare now stands. According to tradition, this roughly corresponds to the site of the fort. In the earlier stages of the venture, Sturdevant seems to have done the counterfeiting of bank notes and to have given them to confederates to pass outside the state. For these counterfeit notes the confederates are said to have paid Sturdevant at the rate of $16.00 in legal money for each $100.00 of the counterfeit currency. The operations of this band do not seem to have aroused active opposition until the practice of passing the money locally was begun. When those accused of passing the counterfeit money locally were arrested, the resulting trials seemed almost always to have resulted in a hung jury, a mistrial, or some such action that many persons looked upon as a miscarriage of justice.

In an effort to strengthen the law enforcement program, a committee composed of Joseph Pryor, Dr. Wil-

liam Sims, Rev. William Rondeau, Hugh McNuelty, Major John Raum, and perhaps of others, was formed. This committee seems to have been an advisory and controlling body, and was formed to direct the activities of others. At about this time, and doubtless upon the advice of this committee, a band of men was formed and proceeded to attack the band of counterfeiters at Sturdevant's blockhouse. Spies had informed the counterfeiters that an armed group was coming to attack them. In the battle that followed, according to tradition, three members of Sturdevant's band were killed. A small cannon in the possession of the counterfeiters was brought into effective use, and the law enforcement group was held at bay. Messengers were dispatched to bring reinforcements. While the attacking party was awaiting the additional help, night came on, and the counterfeiters made their escape.

For a short time following this event, conditions remained quiet. The next epidemic of lawlessness began with considerable horse stealing, with which the earlier practice of counterfeiting was soon included. To these practices of horse stealing and counterfeiting, that of kidnapping free Negroes and of selling them to slave dealers was shortly added. Anyone informing the authorities concerning the men supposedly guilty of the crimes mentioned might expect his property to be burned or his very life to be in jeopardy. One person accused of the kidnapping of free Negroes confessed and implicated others. He died quickly after tak-

ing a drink of whiskey given to him by a man suspected of being engaged in the same illegal practice.

In 1846 a man named Sides, who had received some money from an estate that he was administering, was beaten, along with his wife, and left presumably to burn in his home that was set on fire. A heavy rain put the fire out. The victims were revived and told their story. This incident seems to have been the decisive one in the open and somewhat public functioning of the Regulators. Hundreds of men joined the organization, ostensibly to carry out the orders of the governing council. The sheriff was to be "advised" concerning the release, on bond, of any accused men. Some men suspected in the Sides incident were arrested. No bonds were allowed, and they were kept under close guard by the Regulators. When time came for the trial, a change of venue took it to Johnson County. According to some reports, the Flatheads intended to use force to free the accused as they were being transferred to Vienna. Because of the heavy guard under which they were moved, such could not be done. In the Vienna trial, six men were convicted and given prison terms. Four of them died in the penitentiary.

Like most extra-legal groups formed to take the law into their own hands, the Regulators soon got out of control of the calmer element that directed their formation and early work. They became tyrannical and fanatical, often adminstering beatings and torture to those they suspected, or toward whom they had formed a dislike. They forced the

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resignation of Circuit Judge Scate, intimidated and coerced law enforcement officers, rescued fellow Regulators who had run afoul of the law, and appointed justices before whom accused persons were tried. They whipped, as well as tarred and feathered people whom they adjudged as deserving punishment. In short, they became as lawless as the element they had organized to regulate.

A plea was sent to Governor Ford, asking for the State Militia to be sent into the county. Militia from adjoining counties refused to serve. Dr. William Gibbs of Johnson County was sent by the governor to try to compose the difference. The State Legislature gave the problem much attention. A new and special district court was established to try such cases. It aroused considerable opposition, and its legal validity was challenged. Though this court met at Benton, in 1847, and several men were held to appear before it, there seems to be no record of its final action. After many years of strife and considerable loss of life and property, cooler heads came to prevail, and by 1850, peace and quiet reigned. Mob law had been a failure. People in large numbers came to settle in Pope County, and its progress during the next ten years was marked.

POLITICS

Records indicate that the citizens of Pope County have at all times taken politics rather seriously. The meager records indicate that in the election of August 1824, when the proposition of amending the state constitution to permit slavery in Illinois was to be voted upon, there was a sharp division of sentiment in the county. The majority was favorable toward slavery.

Again, the mounting political feelings throughout the nation in the period immediately preceding the Civil War were clearly reflected. In the senatorial campaign of Lincoln and Douglas in 1858, the division was sharp and somewhat bitter, but definitely favorable to Douglas. That feelings were freely, though slightly unmetrically, expressed is indicated by one of the campaign songs published in the **Herald,** on September 23, 1858. A copy of the song is given here.

A DITTY FOR THE TIMES
by Hackberry

AIR—"Pop Goes the Weasel."

Poltitics is now a theme
For all to talk and think on,
While out upon the changing scene
Pop! goes Aby Lincoln.

He to fight the "Giant" tries,
While Danites he relies on—
Trumbull "crams our throats with lies"
Pop! they're worse than poison.

As he rants and raves away,
Some exclaim, "O, fie! man;"
Others simply smile and say,
"Pop! what a lie-man!"

Lincoln says the darkies are
Our equals by creation—
O'er our eyes to pull the har,
Pop—the Declaration!

On his platform he can't stand,
And when the people hoot him,

While in their eyes he's throwing
  sand—
Pop! goes a plank to suit 'em.

Lovejoy the first Lieutenant is,
Of all his thimble-riggers—
While underground that road of his
Pop—away the niggers!

Though for a preacher he was raised,
He's bound, with expedition,
If he doesn't mend his ways,
Pop! into peridition.

The Danites hate the "Giant" brave,
And niggerism wink on;
Finding "Dug" has dug their grave,
Pop! They're out for Lincoln!

Office-holder brave and true
Who don't support the "Ranger"
Dougherty and all his crew—
Pop! his head's in danger.

When the Lincoln-Douglas debate
occured at Jonesboro, several people
from Pope County attended. The
only known name of anyone going is
that of E. E. Trovillion, who made
the journey in a wagon, going by
way of Columbus, Old Grantsburg,
Vienna, and on to Jonesboro. It is
reported that he took several others
with him. That Pope County was
definitely favorable toward slavery
as shown by the election is not sur-
prising. It is explained by the fact
that numerous Negroes were at one
time held as slaves or bond servants
in the county.

The presidential election of 1860
was an animated one, and numerous
stories concerning it are still to be
heard. In February, 1929, a list of
the men who voted for Lincoln in
1860 was published in the Golconda
paper. According to this list, Lin-
coln received only nineteen votes.
There could be some mistake in these
figures, since published returns for
the presidential election that year
show many more Lincoln voters.
Even at its best, however, the Lincoln
vote was, relatively, very small.

The following is a list of these
voters as published in the Golcon-
da paper in 1929: John M. Boi-
court, J. Hillis Hall, Joshua Craig,
Jonathan C. Williams, Thomas Mc-
Gowan, J. W. Y. Hanna, W. S. Hodge,
Dr. John P. Hodge, Thomas Bell,
A. D. Pierce, E. E. Trovillion, Ed
Palmer, Glen Wright, F. M. Clana-
han, George D. Waters, Wesley Booz-
man, Shanz Golightly, William R.
Whiteside, and Mathew Bracewell.

With the list of names as pub-
lished, a brief record of the part
played by some of these men after
the 1860 campaign was given. J.
M. Boicourt entered the service and
became Captain of Company G. 6th
Illinois Cavalry. He was a member
of General John B. Grierson's com-
mand that made one of the most cele-
brated cavalry raids of history when
it ravaged the territory from La-
Grange, Tennessee, to Baton Rouge,
Louisiana. Boicourt had been post-
master but resigned the position to
enter the army. Upon his return to
Golconda, he was re-appointed post-
master and served until his death.

J. Hillis Hall was for a long time
a leading citizen in Golconda and
succeeded in accumulating a sizable
fortune for that day. Joshua Craig
was editor of the Herald Enterprise.
Jonathan C. Willis later became
sheriff of the county. After this, he

moved to Metropolis. He served as Revenue Collector for the 13th district. During the Civil War he was on General Grant's staff. Thomas McGowan was for a number of years one of the prominent business men of Golconda. For many years, J. E. Y. Hanna was a teacher, civic leader, and county surveyor.

Captain W. S. Hodge was at one time sheriff of the county. His son, John H. Hodge, later became County Superintendent of Schools. Dr. John P. Hodge was a leading physician and prominent citizen of the area. Major A. D. Pierce became sheriff and one of the leading merchants of the town. E. E. Trovillion was a successful business man. Ed Palmer was a prominent farmer living near Glendale. Glen Wright was also a prominent farmer and the father of Captain Robert M. Wright, U. S. Army. F. M. Clanahan became widely known as "Fox Clanahan" because of his love for fox chasing. George W. Waters became a prominent farmer and leading citizen of the county.

The records do not indicate any later fame attained by Leslie Boozmore beyond the fact that he lived near Dixon Springs and that his wife was a writer of some note. Shanz Golightly operated a mill for wheat and corn at Bay City. William R. Whiteside, farmer of Glendale, was the father of Attorney J. Ado Whiteside. Matthew Bracewell lived in the northwestern corner of the county. He told of being personally assaulted at the polls when he cast his vote. Bracewell lived to a ripe old age and vowed that he never for one moment regretted the way he voted. His son,

William, was a volunteer in the Civil War. Thomas Bell left no later records.

The first issue of the **Golconda Herald**—that is, Volume 1 Number 1, issued in 1857—frankly and forcibly set forth its political beliefs. Another paper, the **Pope County Transcript,** established by J. M. Boicourt, in late 1862 or early 1863, was rabidly union and stoutly supported President Lincoln and his party. This paper evidently did not continue many years, for there is record that another paper, **The Enterprise,** began publication in 1886 and announced itself as definitely Republican. This definite commitment of the papers of that day to an active part in politics need not be interpreted as indicating more than the usual practice. Practically all papers at that time were avowedly political and did nothing to conceal the fact.

It should be noted, however, that when the Civil War did come, Pope County definitely and consistently defended the cause of national union. Its military contributions to the union cause certainly need no apologies.

The general interest in elections did not always require a Democrat-Republican issue. That of temperance and prohibition has furnished material for some animated campaigns. The writer was unable to secure the exact dates when these campaigns were waged, but it must have been in the first decade of the 1900's, since one of the authors has been absent from Golconda since about that time. To indicate the general pattern of such campaigns, two of the songs used are given here.

THE TEETOTALERS ARE COMING

Tune—"The Campbells are Coming."

By A. H. Buel

The teetotalers are comin O Ho O
The teeotalers are comin O Ho O
The teetotalers are comin
Old Alchy to rout
The teetotalers are comin O Ho O.

We have entered the field with our
    armours bright,
To fight the old demon with all our
    might
By the help of God, Oh here we come
To save you from the tyrant Rum

Chorus (First Verse)

King Alcohol disputes our ground
And says that he will wear the
    crown
Give him the crown. Oh! That won't
    do
To have you lost in Brandy stew.

Know in our midst the enemy is sta-
    tioned
To fill our country with black dis-
    sipation,
To put you in chains and stone you
    with crime
And throw you to waller along with
    the swine.

The ladies already have entered the
    field
The cause of temperance they never
    will yield,
With pledge in hand they nobly wait,
To save you from the Drunkard's
    fate.

The ladys are coming O Ho O
The ladys are comin O Ho O
The ladys are comin
Old Alchy to rout
The ladys are coming O Ho O.

BLESSINGS OF TEMPERANCE

By Isaac McCoy, A. M.

What blissful sounds have broken,
Along the distant main.
The tidings. Hear them spoken—
There's joy in every strain;
O'er every sea and ocean.
O'er every land, behold.
Health, peace, and true devotion.
The Temperance theme have told.

Long night had rapt creation
In darkness shades of woe;
And tears and lamentation,
From countless hearts did flow.
But hark! What note of gladness
The Patriot's bosom thrills?
Tis Temperance, cheering sadness
And soothing sorrow's ills.

Then Hope from Heav'n descending,
Her beams on nature flung;
Her thousand anthems, blending,
With Freedom's muse she sung.
Columbia woke to glory.
Her Temperance banner waved,
Her millions learn'd the story;
And Heav'n and Virtue saved.

Whatever the issues at stake, it
seems that the voters of Pope Coun-
ty have acted with directness and
have not been hesitant in voicing
their convictions, nor in acting upon
them.

BLACKSMITHS

One of the first and very neces-
sary craftsmen was the blacksmith.
This local workman's shop was the
source of practically all iron work
required in the making of farm tools.
He layered axes and sometimes even
made the entire ax. Hoes, frows,
log hooks, plows, butcher knives,

door hinges, latches, andirons, wedges, hammers, chisels, and many other tools and devices came from his shop.

The more skilled smiths often turned their hands to the making of rifles. Even today one may find in an attic or somewhere about an old homestead, a rifle that was made by such a gunsmith. These firearms should not be looked upon solely as a means of recreation. They were useful to the pioneer in the defense of his livestock against wild animals and, upon occasions, in the defense of his home. A considerable proportion of his meat supply was secured from the game he killed. These men, the gunsmiths and blacksmiths, were skilled craftsmen and useful citizens.

Some of the early blacksmiths and wagon shops operating in Pope County were those of Willie Story, John Willis, John H. Baugher, and Daniel Sanders, who operated shops in Golconda. Harris Leonard also operated a carriage shop there. Jess Reynolds had a shop at Bay City, and J. B. Russel had one at Glendale. Numerous other shops were scattered over Pope County at a very early date. A considerable amount of wagon repair work is even yet done at Eddyville.

One of the very few gunsmiths, Mr. Walters, still using the methods and tools of the pioneer craftsman, occasionally plies his trade at Waltersburg, on the Vienna-Golconda highway.

WHITESIDE'S TANNERY

Whiteside's tannery is shown on an atlas published in 1876. It took its name from George Whiteside who operated it for a number of years. There were twelve or more pits, each about four feet wide, about the same in depth, and of varying lengths. The pits were lined with heavy oak planking and were tight enough to hold water.

Some of the pits contained a mixture of wood ashes and water, or lime and water. Into these the hides were placed and allowed to soak for the necessary time. Upon removal from this solution they were carefully scraped, so that all hair was removed. They were washed, to remove the lye or lime, then were placed in another pit with alternate layers of tan bark that had been somewhat finely ground. Water was poured over these layers of hides and tanbark, until all was covered. Here the hides were allowed to soak until they had been fully tanned.

After they were removed from the pits, the hides were drawn back and forth across the sharp edge of a plank, or whipped about a beating post until they had become as limber as desired for their intended purpose. Some leather, like that to be used for shoe soles or some parts of harness, was not so treated. After drying, the leather was ready for sale.

After it was tanned, leather was dyed to desired color. This was sometimes done by use of dubbin, a mixture of oils and animal fats com-

bined with lampblack or other coloring matter. At other times, oxgall was used for dyeing.

The bark for tanning came from oaks. Trees were sometimes cut only for the bark they afforded. Generally the tanbark was secured from trees cut for barrel staves or for lumber. Since a number of stave factories operated in communities nearby, much tanbark was obtained from them. If cut in the early spring months after the sap had begun to flow, bark could be easily peeled. This bark was collected and hauled to the tanner. There it was laid on a circular track having a stone floor. Around this track a heavy stone, fastened to a horsepowered sweep, was rolled. Bark was kept on the track and in the path of the wheel until it was ground finely enough to be used in the tanning pits. An individual wishing to tan only a few hides might pound his tanbark with a stone maul.

Local shoemakers and harness makers used some of the leather. Some of it went upon the market and was aften transported to New Orleans or other points by flatboat. Cattle were generally cheap, and a tanned hide was often worth more than the remainder of the animal.

Carl Maynor operated a blacksmith and wagon shop at the same location as Whiteside's Tannery. Both these ventures seem to have prospered.

MINES AND MINERALS

The mining industry of Pope County has extended over quite a long period of time and been somewhat varied, but never extensive. On some of the early maps of the county, "Iron Ore" is indicated. Some of these places where coal or iron was found, and perhaps mined to a very limited extent, are indicated on the accompanying map. These iron deposits were not important and have never been mined, as they were in Hardin county around the Illinois Furnace of Martha Furnace. Coal findings have been of little importance. In a few places, out-croppings were found and some mines opened. Apparently there have been no tipple mines. Most of the operators sold the coal to those who came for it in wagons. Some of these mines are located on the map, but none of them seem to be still in operation.

Deposits of kaolin and other clays used in industry have been found in Pope County. One of the largest of these kaolin mines was located beside the Eddyville-Golconda road where it crosses Lusk creek. This mine had been operated for several purposes. At one time it was designated as "lead diggings", and a quantity of lead was mined. As the supply of lead diminished, the mine was turned to production of red iron oxide. It then turned to clay mining. A considerable village was located there, and Alonzo Frieze operated a hotel and store. At one time the mine employed a number of foreigners. There were several major accidents at this mine. Some men were

crushed to death by falls of clay, and others by an explosion. Operations ceased many years ago.

Some early spar mines were opened in Pope County. The one designated as Empire Spar Mine was opened before 1876 and worked for several years. As its products grew poor, it was discontinued and later revived with the discovery of a better vein. It was deserted a second time and once more revived. It is still operating.

The Grand Pierre Lead Mine was operating in 1876. Perhaps the most extensive coal mine of the county was one operated by Frank Durfee, near Blanchard. This mine supplied some householders, along with schools and churches. The coal came from an outcropping on a hillside. Durfee's mine also supplied some coal to the company engaged in construction of the new railway known as the Edgewood Cut-Off. So far as can be learned, no coal mines were operating in the county in 1946.

COTTON

According to Mr. T. B. Holloway, living near Eddyville in 1946, a large cotton gin was operated by Josh Taylor at a place about four miles south and two miles west of Bay City, in the 1870's, and for some years thereafter. Mr. Holloway remembers going with his father, Josh Holloway, who then lived about one mile north of Rock, to take cotton to Taylor's place. This was a journey of some eighteen miles, but it was the most convenient place at which one could have cotton ginned.

In earlier days many people grew small patches of cotton to be used in home weaving. This cotton was sometimes picked from the seeds by hand. In other cases a rude gin was made and used in the home. The main part of these homemade gins consisted of two wooden rollers, similar to those of a clothes wringer but much smaller, being only about one-half inch in diameter. These rollers allowed the cotton fibers to enter and be drawn through but did not allow the seeds to enter. Two persons worked at one of these small gins. While one operator turned the crank at the end of one roller and held the unginned cotton against the rollers, the other turned a crank at the opposite end of the other roller and helped by pulling the ginned cotton from the rollers as it came through. By use of this simple machine, cotton fibers were removed from the seeds much more rapidly than by hand. Parts of one of these primitive hand gins were secured from Rev. Wesley Jackson at McCormick, along with a detailed description that enabled the author to complete working drawings for the reproduction of such a device.

Cotton from the small plots grown by the householders was used for home weaving. It was carded and spun into thread to be used as warp in making of the cloth known as linsey-woolsey. The term linsey-woolsey was derived from the fact that such cloth was originally made of linen warp and wool woof. The term soon came to be applied also to a cotton warp and wool woof cloth.

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TAVERNS

One of the duties of the early County Commissioner was to fix tavern rates. Since all taverns were licensed by the county board and the rates that they might charge their customers were fixed by the same board, such records do much to indicate the location of different settlements and lines of travel.

The following are typical of the rates charged in April, 1816, at taverns in Pope County. Breakfast, dinner or supper 25c; lodging, each person, 12½c; whiskey and peach brandy one-half pint, 37½c; horse kept and fed corn or oats and hay or fodder, 37½c; a single feeding for horse 12½. The licenses charged for the privilege of operating a tavern in 1816 varied from $4.00 to $8.00, evidently depending upon the size of the tavern.

Tavern rates in 1812 were as follows: Breakfast or supper 25c; lodging 12½; horse to hay at night 25c; for feed and corn 12½c; French brandy, 50c one-half pint; whisky one-half pint, 12½c; taffia or rum per one-half pint, 37½c; peach brandy, 37½c; and cherry bounce, 25c one-half pint. Comparison of these prices with those of 1816 shows substantially the same charges. However, taffia and cherry bounce had disappeared from the list of liquors available. One wonders just what they were.

It should be remembered that taverns were often important as gathering places. They were stopping places for stages; they often held the postoffice; they frequently had a store connected with them; they were, therefore, convenient gathering places for travelers and politicians. The tavern keeper was a man of considerable influence.

SUGAR CAMP

Sugar camps were located at various places in Pope County, one being about a mile northwest of Raum, in a region where maple trees were plentiful. It was in full operation until at least the middle 1880's. T. B. Holloway remembers distinctly when this camp was operated. Another such camp was the one near Bethesda church, about three miles southeast of Raum, on Little Grand Pierre Creek. In the Golconda paper of February 14, 1887, an advertisement appeared, stating that Tom Abbot wished to buy all maple sugar made in the county.

When one considers that loaf sugar—that is, sugar closely resembling the dark brown variety sometimes found on sale today—cost about 50 cents a pound, it can be readily understood why maple sugar was made. For the making of maple sugar, a section of woodland containing many sugar maple trees was selected. This was generally in some fertile valley. If the grove selected was not easily accessible from the home of the one making the sugar, a cabin and other camp necessities were built. Firewood was gathered; the necessary kettles, buckets, sleds, carrying-yokes, troughs and barrels were assembled; and other preliminary preparations completed.

In early spring, the householder watched closely to see when the sap began to rise in the maples. This was generally in late February or early March. As soon as conditions warranted, work began. Trees were "tapped" by having holes bored into them. These holes sloped down, slightly. Into them, spiles or tubes, generally made of sections of alder from which the pith had been removed, were closely fitted. These tubes were allowed to project six or eight inches from the tree trunk. Under the end of each spile, a wooden trough or bucket was set. By use of large buckets and a carrying-yoke, or by use of barrels and a sled, the sap was collected as often as was necessary. It was carried to the place where kettles had been arranged for boiling the sap. Here, boiling and skimming began. If syrup was desired, the boiling was discontinued at the time when a proper consistency had been reached. If it was planned to make sugar, the cooking was continued until a soft brown sugar resulted when the thickened syrup was cooled.

This work of making maple syrup and sugar was carried forward vigorously for the two weeks or so that the sap flowed freely. Coming as it did at the end of the winter, the making of maple sugar took on some of the aspects of a holiday.

STEAMBOATS

Since the Ohio River flows along much of the border of Pope County and no railroads came through the County until a comparatively late date, steamboats and river traffic were important factors in the county's development. With the decline of river traffic, it became less important but remained the main source of commercial transportation with outside territory for a long time. This is indicated by the fact that the Golconda paper on September 11, 1887, carried advertisements of the Memphis-Cincinnati Packet Company, in which the company advertised that four of its boats would stop regularly at Golconda, the downriver stops being made on Monday and Friday nights, and the up-river stops on Thursdays and Sundays.

A floating saw mill was owned and operated by Leo Bauer in the Golconda vicinity, about 1865. Another Bauer, Ottoman, of Golconda, bought a steamboat and named it the "Monie Bauer" for his daughter. With older people, the echoes of steamboat whistles still arouse memories of the days when Golconda was a busy river port.

DISTILLERY

Several early-day distilleries operated in Pope County. One stood near the present Old Home Church in the Eddyville vicinity, and was operated by a man named Gus Henry. "Uncle" Burton Holloway tells of seeing the log trough, holding perhaps 100 gallons, in which mash was allowed to ferment before distillation. Most of the whiskey was made from corn. Since whiskey was quite generally used and found a ready sale, the corn could be marketed much more conveniently in this manner. Made into whiskey, it could be transported in much less space. Local potteries pro-

duced the jugs required. With the planting of orchards, the manufacture of brandy became common and helped considerably in providing a market for the surplus fruit. Since practically no insect pests then plagued the owner of an orchard, fruit growing was not beset with so many difficulties as it is today. Thus the distilling of brandy was a common industry.

The pioneer distiller paid a very small tax on his product. It was priced accordingly, and whiskey could be had for one dollar, or less, per gallon.

These early distilleries were often located near a grist mill where corn could be ground for the mash. This arrangement allowed the miller to turn his surplus product to a nice profit. Owners of larger orchards might also turn distillers, in order to dispose of their surplus fruit.

STREAMS AND LAKES
Springs

There are some widely known springs in Pope County. One of these is Bell Smith Springs, about four miles west and slightly north of Eddyville. The region about Bell Smith Spring has long been noted for its beautiful scenery, and for several generations, people have gone there to picnic. It is still a popular picnic ground.

This spring was named for a man named Bell Smith who lived nearby and who at one time owned the land on which the spring is located. For many years, his name was visible where he had carved it in the rock

just above the spring. The wall where the name was carved is thickly covered with moss, and now it is only by careful searching that the name can be found.

Another widely known spring is one located some two miles north of Golconda, on a farm now owned by Ray Gullett. Quite an interesting story is connected with this spring. According to the story, a band of men had robbed a bank in Kentucky and secured a large amount of money. A man named Hudson, who was a pilot on an Ohio River steamboat, owned the place. His brother had a hand in the robbery and buried the money on the farm. The robber told his pilot brother of the treasure and promised that he would some day indicate the hiding place. Before this was done, the robber brother died with yellow fever, however; so the treasure is still buried near the spring.

The present owner, Ray Gullett, often has visitors who wish to dig for the treasure. In response to their requests, Mr. Gullet anwers calmly, "Now boys, I am interested in that treasure; I know just about where it is, and some day when I am not too busy, I am going to dig it up"—and continues to sit on his porch.

According to another story, one of many in that locality, a local citizen was told by some strangers that if he would place his gold in a leather belt, allow them to "bless" it, and then wear the belt during the night, he would dream of the location of the above-mentioned treasure. He took his gold, put it in the belt, allowed the strangers to say some mystic

words over it, and buckled it about himself. As morning neared and no dreams had come, this gentleman began to be somewhat worried and decided to take a peek at the gold that he had. The peek revealed the fact that the belt was filled with leaden washers. The strangers and his gold were gone.

There are numerous other stories of buried treasure to be heard along the river regions of the county.

Round Pond

Round Pond, so named because of its general shape, is indicated as a pond on the Illinois map of 1876. On some later maps and on the geological survey it is indicated only as a marsh. This is the result, perhaps, of its having been partially drained.

Big Pond

This pond or lake is shown on the 1876 map. It is indicated as being about one-fourth mile wide and five or six miles long. On later maps it is indicated as a marsh. Early settlers called this and much of the territory lying about it the "Nigger Wool Swamps." It was an excellent fishing place in early days.

Black Bottom

On many of the early maps of Pope County, one finds a portion of the southern part designated as "Black Bottom." Different explanations are offered for this name. Some say that it was given because a number of Negroes settled in that region. Others claim that it was so named because of the black soil. The latter explanation seems to be the better one, even though several families of Negroes have resided in that area. It was once a swampy region with much dark water moss. This fact is advanced, also as an explanation for the name of the area. It, too, was occasionally referred to as the "Nigger Wool Swamps." Today practically all of it has been drained, and it constitutes an excellent farming region, except for periodical overflows. This is the most fertile soil of the county. Old men tell of the time when these swamps were first drained and excellent corn crops were gathered from broadcast seeding.

Clear Lake

Clear Lake was located and named on the map of Pope County, in 1876. By some, it is explained that it was named because of the clear water. It was an excellent fishing place. A later drainage system practically eliminated this lake.

Creeks

Alcorn Creek empties into the Ohio River about two miles north of Hamletsburg and opposite Dog Island. Tradition has it that it was named for a man named Alcorn, who had settled near it. Allen's Branch flows north from the vicinity of McCormick and empties into Little Saline River near the northern boundary of the County. Through a considerable portion of its length, its valley is narrow and rather picturesque. This creek takes its name from one of the earlier residents of the area. Burden Creek, once known as Halfway Branch, rises east of McCormick and flows north into Little Saline River. It takes its name from Wm. Burden,

who lived near the Eddyville-Stonefort road. The Burden house was still standing in 1946.

Copperous Branch flows into Lusk Creek a short distance downstream from the point where the Eddyville-Golconda road crosses it. This stream gets its name from the fact that its waters taste rather strongly of copperas. In earlier days, when Lusk Creek was forded just below the point where Copperous Branch enters it, the horses and oxen refused to drink the distasteful water. Travelers would drive up the bed of Lusk to a place above the point where the branch entered and allow their animals to drink. Some people felt that the water of this spring possessed medicinal properties.

Gibbon's Creek has carried several names. It was once known as Drumm Creek because of the fact that Phil Drumm had a grist mill on the stream. It was also called Drumm's Branch of Sugar Creek at another time. The present name of Gibbon's Creek is for a man of that name, an early resident of the area.

Hunting Branch flows into Bay Creek near Bell Smith Spring. Its name comes from the fact that it was along this branch that an excellent early hunting ground lay.

Quarrel is an unusual name to assign to a creek and easily arouses curiosity as to why it is so named. Two explanations are offered by older residents in the area. According to one of the stories, the rocky bed of the creek and the several falls that occur in it, make it a very noisy stream after any heavy rain. Its name thus comes from its being

so noisy. According to another story, an old couple who lived near the place where the gravel road crosses the creek quarreled almost continually, and from that situation came the name.

Sugar Camp Creek takes its name from the fact that a camp for the making of maple sugar was once located there. Such a camp was operated by a Mr. Shufflebarger, about two miles east and south of McCormick. The name of Sugar Creek is one that often occurs and seems always to indicate an area where maple sugar was made.

These illustrations explain the origin of some of the names. Others easily suggest the sources of their names, but still others remain obscure. No satisfactory explanation is found for Big Bay or Grand Pierre, though a tradition exists that Grand Pierre came from an early Frenchman of the region, a part of his name being Pierre. In some old records this name is spelled "Grandpear" or "Grampear."

When Randolph County was organized as part of the Northwest Territory, one of the townships of the county was Grand Pierre. This would tend to indicate an early, somewhat concentrated settlement in the area.

Dams

Ohio River dams are rather recent structures. Only one such dam occurs on the border of Pope County. This is designed as Dam Number 51 and is located just below Golconda. It regulates the depth of water where the rapids once occurred at lower

river stages. By means of gates and locks, boats are passed over the shallow stretch of river at all times of the year.

An ingenious forcing of the water to flow through a controlled device in the dam known as the "bear trap" makes the gates of the locks operate properly, and the boats pass through. Though they are large structures and are designed for the passage of the largest river boats and barges, these locks will also operate for the individual who chances to come that way in a rowboat. They are a great aid in the promotion of river traffic.

When watermills were established on several streams of Pope County, it was often necessary to build a dam across the stream in order to have a sufficient head of water. Permission to build such dams was granted by the county officials to mill owners upon proof that such a dam would not damage property belonging to others.

SURFACE FEATURES

Caves

There are many places designated as caves in Pope County. Very often they are not true caves but are only overhanging rock ledges. One such cave was alluded to in the discussion of Money Cave Hollow. Another cave is located in Gum Springs Hollow. It is said that this cave once had weird drawings on its walls. Another cave, known as Murray's, is about two miles south of Olive church. A third cave, known as Mc-New Cave, is in Jackson Hollow. A family named McNew once lived in this cave, and a son named Jake is

said to have been born there. Maynor Cave is located about one mile south of Eddyville. This cave is reported to be a dry one and is said, even yet, to be only partially explored. Freeze Cave is located near Freeze School. Very early county records refer to Salt Peter Cave on Big Creek but do not definitely fix its location.

Sheridan Cave

On the west side of War Bluff and well toward the bottom, is a cave, or over-hanging ledge. This cave is perhaps 25 feet long and 8 feet high, and extends 10 or 12 feet beneath the bluff. Earliest tradition indicates that a wall was found across the open side of this cave. It was in this cave that Tom Sheridan, who later became county superintendent of schools and a practicing attorney in Vienna, was born. In addition to the other incidents related concerning this cave, there is also the buried-treasure story, and many men have gone to dig in various places about the cave and along the bluff for treasure they are sure is buried there. No one has reported finding it.

Hills and Hollows

The hills and hollows of Pope County have taken their names in many cases from settlers who lived nearby, or from activities carried on in the vicinity.

Near the north end of the County is Bear Track Hollow. According to local explanations, this hollow is so named from the fact that the last bear tracks to be seen in Pope County were found there. At one time it was known as Sugar Camp Hollow.

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This name came from the fact that, at one time, a sugar camp had been located at the mouth of it.

Near Bear Track Hollow is Guip Williams Hollow. It was named for a man called Guip Williams, who lived near the head of it. Both of these hollows are rocky and present a wild appearance. Each is infested with rattlesnakes, and for that reason, most people stay away from them during the summer months.

Cedar Bluff

The name "Cedar Bluff" appears first on a map made in 1876. Present-day maps do not carry the name. The bluff is covered with cedar trees that present a most attractive appearance during the winter months. It is still referred to by many people as Cedar Bluff.

Dog Hollow

This hollow is shown and named on the geological maps but is not shown on other maps. It is a short distance north of Oak church. According to the story current in that region, this hollow received its name from the following incident. Two young men had seen their girls safely home from a church service. They were returning at a late hour through the hollow. By their story they were pursued by a headless dog. Thus the hollow received its name and has ever since been called Dog Hollow.

Harper's Knob

The name of Hence Mountain appears first on a map published in 1876. This hill has had several different names. At one time it was called Williams Mountain for a family who lived near the east end of it. Later it was called Carter Hill, for Jack Carter. Then afterwards, it was owned by Hence Gibbs and was designated Hence Mountain. It is now a part of the Shawnee National Forest. This is the highest elevation in southern Illinois, being about thirty feet higher than Bald Knob in Jackson County.

Kate Reid Hollow

Kate Reid Hollow is in the north end of the County and takes its name from a woman who lived in the vicinity. This name was also applied to the branch that flows through the valley.

Massac Bluff

Massac Bluff is shown and named on the Illinois Atlas of 1876. It is three-fourths of a mile south of Rock. The church at the foot of this bluff was once known as Pine Hollow and is said to have taken that name from a large, lone pine that stood in the hollow.

Millstone Knob

Millstone Knob is shown on the 1876 map of Pope County. It is said to have taken its name from the fact that millers once got mill stones from a quarry there. A number of the early mills in Pope County are said to have been equipped with millstones from this source. According to another explanation, it was so named because of the resemblance it bears to a millstone, when viewed from a distance.

Money Cave Hollow

Money Cave Hollow is shown on the Illinois Atlas map of 1876. This place takes its name from the fact

that a man who once lived there en-
gaged in counterfeiting. According
to the story current, this man went to
Grantsburg and bought a suit of
clothes, paying for it with counter-
feit money. The merchant detected
the spurious money and had the cul-
prit arrested. In fact, he had been
arrested several times previously but
had managed to escape, being assis-
ted by friends who smuggled him
saws hidden in the soles of their
shoes. On this occasion he failed to
escape and was sent to prison for
his crime.

Pittulo Bluff

Pittulo Bluff is shown on the map
of 1876. It takes its name from a
man who homesteaded nearby. On
some records the name is given "Pit-
talo."

Potato Hill

There are two stories explaining
the name of Potato Hill. According
to one story, it looked very much
like the old-fashioned potato hills or
mounds used by farmers for storing
potatoes during the winter.

According to another story, it was
named because many potatoes were
grown in the vicinity. It is not a
very large hill. Either of these ex-
planations sounds plausible, for it is
a recorded fact that James Wallace
lived in that vicinity and grew many
potatoes.

Sand Hill

Sand Hill is shown and named on
the Geological Survey maps of this
region. According to local explan-
ations, this hill received its name be-
cause of the fact that there is much

soft sandstone exposed on its slopes.
This sandstone washes away easily,
and after rains, much sand may be
found drifted at the foot of the hill.
The view from the crest of this hill
is a magnificent one. It was here
that Matthew Bracewell home-
steaded land and built his house.

Thacker's Gap

Thacker's Gap is one of the most
convenient passages through the hills
extending across northern Pope
County. It received its name from
Ben Thacker who lived in a hewed
log house about one-fourth mile off
the present highway, on the old road
that led toward Hart's store. Thac-
ker chose this location because there
was a large spring nearby. Through
this gap passed one of the early im-
migrant trails leading toward the
St. Louis area.

Islands

There are several islands on the
Ohio River along the border of Pope
County. One of these, Golconda Isl-
and, is indicated on the 1876 map.
On earlier maps it is shown as a dis-
tinct island. On later maps and on
the geological maps, it is indicated
as attached to Kentucky. This island
is known locally as Rondeau Island,
which name appears as older than
Golconda Island. The name, Ron-
deau, was the name of an early set-
tler of the region.

Cumberland Island is located near
the mouth of the Cumberland River,
from which it takes its name. An
early ferry used this island as an
intermediate stop in crossing the
Ohio.

Stewart Island marks the location of an early-day ferry, operated by a man named O'Melvaney. This ferry passed from Bayou Creek (Smithland, Kentucky) across the river but did not stop at the island.

Three Sisters Island is shown on the 1876 map as separate islands. At the present time it is shown as one island though it still bears the name of "Three Sisters."

Price Island, or Pryor Island, is located about two miles below Golconda. This island is said to take its name from a man named Pryor who lived on the Illinois shore near there. He was the father of Reverend Dan Pryor, a Baptist minister, and Reverend R. M. Pryor, a Presbyterian minister.

MADSTONES

The "madstone" is an interesting object in Pope County and indicates a fairly firm belief of many people. Such a stone is now in the possession of John Bushman, who lives north of Golconda. This stone is very black, fibrous in appearance, and somewhat like a piece of cannel coal. It is irregular in shape, about one half inch in length, and slightly less in width and thickness. According to tradition, this stone has been widely known for a century or so in the region of Golconda and of much of Southern Illinois. It is said to have been found originally in a mine in Italy. In Pope County it has figured in several law suits. In one such suit, in the March term of 1911, a man named John Breedlove asked that a receiver be appointed and that

the stone in question be sold and a division of the proceeds made.

Breedlove, insisting that he had an equity in the stone, brought suit against Susan Boos, Maggie Meyer, Will C. Gullett, Charles Gullett, and John Gullett. In this suit, Breedlove stated that this Madstone was brought to Illinois from the state of Tennessee by his paternal grandfather, Matthew Trovillion, "more than 40 years ago." He also contended that this stone had been awarded, by a court decision issued about 1892, to two families in turn. He further stated that proceeds from the application of the stone amounted to more than $300.00 yearly, and that it had proved effective in all except one of the hundreds of applications. In this case, a man named Lentzen, who had been badly bitten about the face, died on his way to an Evansville hospital. Mr. Breedlove's suit did not secure him an equity in the stone nor in the possession of it. This stone for many years has attracted persons bitten by dog thought to be rabid. or by poisonous snakes and insects.

According to information given by Mr. Bushman, present possessor of the stone, the wound to which it is applied must be an open one. The stone is applied to the wound and allowed to remain an hour, unless it drops off sooner. It is then placed in clear water and allowed to remain there until it starts to give off bubbles. Then it is again applied to the wound. This process is repeated until the stone no longer adheres. An old issue of the Golconda paper recounts a trip made by Mr. W. V. Nelson, of Hamletsburg, to the madstone. On this trip the horse that

Mr. Nelson borrowed to take his wife to the stone died in Golconda. This story appears in the **Golconda Herald,** for April 18, 1887. In this case, the stone is reported to have adhered eight times.

With the introduction of the Pasteur treatment for rabies prevention, the stone has been used less and less, until today it is seldom in use.

Other madstones have been reported for this vicinity, but none of them seem to enjoy such wide prestige as this one.

NEWSPAPERS

The first newspaper of which there is record in Pope County was the **Herald.** The date of its establishment may be fixed with reasonable accuracy as November 1857, from the fact that its issue of February 7, 1889, is marked as Volume 32, number 14. At this time it was consolidated with the **Enterprise,** which was marked Volume 2, number 41. The **Enterprise** was established as a Republican paper and advertised that it had new and complete equipment. Another old paper of the county was the **Pope County Transcript.** This was published by J. M. Boicourt and Volume 1, number 13, is dated March 18, 1863. Mr. Boicourt's paper, **The Transcript,** was very partisan to the union cause during the Civil War.

One of the interesting issues of a Southern Illinois newspaper is the **Herald Enterprise** of February 4, 1937. On that date, the Ohio River flood had closed the printing shop, and the paper was mimeographed.

TOWNS AND POST OFFICES

Allard

The post office of Allard was established on January 12, 1900, and David N. Allard was appointed postmaster. The records do not show that another postmaster was appointed at a later date. An order was issued on October 9, 1907, closing the post office and directing that the mail be sent to Flatwood. This post office of Flatwood was doubtless in Johnson County. The order for the forwarding of mail was to take effect on October 31.

Allen Springs

A post office, known as Allen Springs, was located about one mile south and a half mile east of Dixon Springs. Various old maps show different locations, doubtless indicating the movement of the office to the residences or stores of those serving as postmaster. On some maps and in some records it is indicated as "Allen Springs"; on others it is set down as "Allen's Spring." The post office was first established on August 5, 1857, with George M. Allen as postmaster. The postmasters who served there are indicated by the following list, which also gives the date of each appointment.

George M. Allen—August 5, 1857.

James R. Anderson—November 4, 1857.

R. H. Modglin—August 10, 1858.

James P. Anderson—November 1, 1859.

W. J. Leigh—June 15, 1864.

T. S. Barton—August 16, 1864.

Discontinued—April 17, 1865.

Re-established—October 16, 1865.

James S. Anderson—October 16, 1865.

Discontinued—January 16, 1866.

Re-established—February 7, 1876.

William J. Baker—February 7, 1876.

Pinckney L. Baker—March 10, 1880.

William J. Baker, March 23, 1880.

William I. Cox—November 18, 1883.

John T. Farmer—October 19, 1886.

Soloman Dilaplain—November 24, 1886.

James A. Whiteside—April 14, 1889.

William I. Cox—November 8, 1893.

William A. Henley—August 2, 1897.

Brownlow Cox—January 19, 1898.

William I. Cox—March 17, 1908.

Discontinued—February 7, 1928.

Azotus

Azotus appears on Geological Survey maps, but does not appear on a map made in 1876. The strangeness of the name, Azotus, elicits many inquiries concerning its origin. This post office took its name from a church, still in existence. The church, in its turn, was named for the Biblical city, Azotus, that stood near the Mediterranean Sea and almost directly west of Jerusalem. The post office named Azotus was established on August 17, 1895, and Luther Hodge was appointed postmaster. Luther Hodge was succeeded by John R. Hodge, on May 23, 1901. John

R. served about two months only and was succeeded by Nathaniel L. Golightly, who became postmaster on July 26, 1901 and served until December 29, 1905, when Eli P. Hodge became postmaster. The post office was discontinued by an order issued on April 2, 1910., and mail was ordered sent to New Liberty.

Bay

Another early post office of Pope County was established on June 4, 1846, and Alexander Jenkins was appointed postmaster. Jenkins served until the post office was discontinued, on March 2, 1857. The author has not been able to secure definite information concerning the location of this post office. Tradition vaguely locates it near the Ohio River, in the vicinity of Bay City.

Big Bay

One of the early post offices established in Pope County was that of Big Bay, located near the present site of Dixon Springs. This post office was established on May 7, 1835, and King Hazle was appointed postmaster, for which position he was required to furnish a bond for $300. The post office was discontinued on November 2, 1835. This office and another at Golconda are the only ones appearing on a map published in 1841 and showing the post offices and postroads of Pope County. Its appearance on the official postal map based on data gathered about 1838, seems to indicate its existence at that date; yet the postal records in the national archives indicate that it was closed in 1835.

This name of Big Bay has also been used to designate a creek that flows a short distance south and west of the place where the early post office was located. It was used to designate the stream as early as 1809, since a land claim for military service was confirmed to Isaac Fitsworth on December 31 of that year, with the statement—"affirmed at the mouth of Big Bay on the Ohio."

In some very early census reports for southern Illinois, Big Bay is mentioned, but no definite location is given.

Blanchard

The village of Blanchard grew up near the residence of J. B. Blanchard. A store and post office were once located there, and a rather dense rural population lived in the vicinity. J. B. Blanchard, the man from whom the village took its name, was a rather unique character. He was a farmer, a country doctor, a preacher, and an enthusiastic fox-hunter. The tradition of the powerful and deep voice sometimes leading a church hymn, at other times urging a pack of hounds in the chase, linger, still. The school at Blanchard once had as many as sixty or seventy pupils. When the Shawnee National Forest was established, nearly all of the people sold their land to the Federal Government and moved away. In the winter of 1944-45 there was no school, since there were no pupils of school age in the district. The first frame church in Pope County is said to have been located at this place. It later burned.

A post office was established there on December 22, 1893, and William D. Smith was appointed postmaster. The succeeding postmasters with the dates of their appointments are given below.

John L. Ragan—September 4, 1895.

James P. Williams—July 22, 1897.

Ezra Hart—March 5, 1898.

Richard S. Hart—March 5, 1898.

Joel F. Stone—October 19, 1915.

John B. Owen—October 11, 1918.

James R. Wasson—Appointed on December 15, 1921, but declined the office.

Discontinued on March 31, 1922.

Breckenridge

On October 14, 1857, the post office of Breckenridge was established at a point on the Ohio River about two miles above Bay City, and John D. Rose was appointed postmaster. On August 27, 1860, Rose was succeeded by James M. McCormick. This post office was discontinued on February 6, 1864, and mail ordered sent to Bay City. An examination of county records has not revealed that a village was ever platted at Breckenridge.

Broad Oak

Broad Oak post office was established on June 13, 1849, and George W. Walters became the first postmaster. He was succeeded by James M. Culp, on February 14, 1854. Culp served until October 21, 1856, when the post office was discontinued. The demand for a post office at this place led to the re-establishment of an office on December 23, 1856, slightly

over two months after it had been closed; and Philip Adar was appointed postmaster. He served until April 23, 1859, when Adam W. Hill assumed the office. On November 12, 1860, Thomas Stone became postmaster and served until February 19, 1861, when Clyde Glendale was appointed. The date of the closing of this office is not known, but it appears that Glendale was the last man to serve as postmaster. No information has been found that will definitely locate this office.

Carrsville

Though no place named Carrsville has been located in Pope County, a story appearing in the Golconda papers in late December of 1887 seems to indicate that such a place existed. This story, although it may refer to the town of that name in Kentucky, is a good one and is included here. The incident alluded to occurred on Christmas Eve, 1887. On that afternoon two young men, wishing to have some excitement and "start something," planned to meet in the most public place in the village and appear to have a quarrel. This they did. When they met, a few sharp words were exchanged. Each drew his revolver, previously loaded with blanks, and began to fire at the other. The results were more than they expected. Friends, seeing what they thought was a battle in progress, promptly joined in the fray. More revolvers appeared, and increased firing began. Others rushed home to secure their firearms. Some seized rocks and began to hurl them. The result was a general melee. Happily no one was killed, though some

were injured. The young men "started something."

Colorado

Colorado was located in Pope County a short distance south of the Saline County Line, in Section 1, Township 11S and Range 5E. It has never been more than a country post office and grocery store. The first office was established on April 19, 1880, and John A. Stalions was named postmaster. John T. Stalions succeeded him on October 14, 1901. Another Stalions, William R., succeeded John T. on October 7, 1904, but John T. once more became postmaster on November 14, 1907, and served until September 30, 1910. At that time, Samuel S. Stalions succeeded him. The Stalion succession was broken when Mason B. Morse became postmaster, on May 6, 1911. He served until April 30, 1917, when the office was discontinued and the mail was sent to Stonefort.

County Line

A post office known as County Line was established on June 20, 1858, and Daniel L. Mattice was appointed postmaster. Mattice served until June 8, 1859, when the office was discontinued. This office was located somewhere in the western or northern part of the county.

Delwood

Delwood is now only a country store and filling station. A post office was once located there, having been established on February 3, 1896, with William R. Stalions as postmaster. William R. was succeeded by Samuel S. Stalions, on January 7,

1904, but returned to the office on December 2, 1907, to serve until November 30, 1923, at which time Clarence S. Barger took over the office. Mrs. Allie Randolph became postmistress on February 15, 1930, and apparently served until the office was closed, some years later.

It may be interesting to note that William R. and Samuel S. Stalions are also listed as postmasters at Colorado, another post office of Pope County.

Dixon Springs

Dixon Springs takes it name from William Dixon who once owned the land there. It has long been used as a place for reunions, picnics, and outings. To some of these reunions, many former residents of the area regularly return, to meet old friends. The post office in this vicinity has borne several names. It was first established as Big Bay, on May 7, 1835. This post office was short-lived and was discontinued on November 2, 1835. The next post office at or near this place was known as Resort. This office was established on February 1, 1896, with Walter Clements as postmaster. He was succeeded by James A. Whiteside, on July 22, 1897. The name again was changed to Dixon Springs on February 11, 1905 but Mr. Whiteside continued to serve as postmaster until October 3, 1913, when James A. Graves took charge. Graves was succeeded by Isaac N. Clements, on March 3, 1919. The post office is still in operation. Dixon Springs now has a country store, a hotel or clubhouse, and a swimming pool. It is a popular place for picnics and out-ings. The scenery about the springs is delightful. This site has recently been acquired by the State of Illinois and will be developed as a state park.

One of the unique sights at Dixon Springs is that of three churches that stand almost side by side. All are still functioning. Across the narrow valley, north of these three churches, is the rather well-preserved log building that once housed one of the church organizations. There are thus four rural church buildings in a distance of less than a quarter of a mile.

Eddyville

The first post office established at Eddyville was known as Book. It is reported that when men met to consider the establishment of this post office, no name had been selected. In the home where they met there was a considerable collection of books. Some one suggested that the name Book be given the post office. This was done, and Sylvester Fulgham was appointed postmaster, June 26, 1861. He was succeeded by the following men.

John Jenkins, October 16, 1861.
David Bozarth, October 13, 1865.
Rufus Hall, September 20, 1866.

The post office of Book was discontinued on August 24, 1869, to be re-established on October 18 of the same year, under the name Eddyville. This name was for Edward Fulghum, who owned the land where the office was located. A list of later postmasters is shown below.

John D. Rose—October 18, 1869.

Jasper N. Maynor—March 28, 1870.

R. G. Metlton—October 21, 1869.

David Shufflebarger — July 20, 1877.

David S. Barger—August 17, 1877.

Elizah B. F. Ginshaw—July 26, 1878.

George W. Whiteside—January 7, 1881.

John W. Robinson—February 2, 1881.

William B. L. Biggs—November 2, 1881.

John Whiteside—November 25, 1881.

Jasper N. Maynor—September 22, 1882.

George S. Borger—September 4, 1883.

George Shufflebarger — September 27, 1883.

Elizah B. F. Ginshaw—January 2, 1886.

J. Green Whiteside—November 19, 1889.

William D. Beames—October 14, 1893.

Richard M. Fulkerson—February 16, 1895.

Mitchell T. Chancey—October 27, 1895.

Albert N. Lauderdale—August 10, 1914.

Mrs. Orilla C. Hollaway—December 18, 1922.

Jesse T. Ragan—October 7, 1929.

Jesse T. Ragan—October 23, 1929.

Erastus Barger—March 11, 1930.

A wool mill was established at Eddyville about 1880 and operated for some twenty years, closing about 1900. The mill, which used horse power, was first operated by Columbus Wilson. The first church, Methodist, was organized by B. W. Hollaway under a shed, about 40 by 80 feet. The first church building was erected about 1872. The upper floor of this first church was occupied by a Masonic Lodge. The old building has long since disappeared. A Baptist church was established at Eddyville about 1890. Knox Trovillion and Bert Baker were two of the early pastors. An interesting story is told concerning the ringing of the bell in the present Baptist church. According to this story, the bell has been rung each New Year's Eve for more than fifty years by "Uncle" Bill Cross, who comes to the church each New Year's Eve and at the hour of midnight begins to ring the bell and thus welcomes in the new year.

A grist mill once stood on the top of Frieze Hill. It was owned by Eddie Fulgham. This first mill was operated by horse power. The horse walked in a circle, turning a sweep that transmitted power to the shaft which turned the mill stones by means of a large pulley and leather belt. The mill house was small, being only about twelve feet square. It ground both corn and wheat but did not bolt the ground wheat. The next mill was operated by James Mason, at the lower pond on the east side of the road. This one was operated by steam power and had sieves. Tom Culloms later came into possession of the Mason Mill and moved it into Eddyville where it was improved and operated for a number of years.

Eddyville was at one time an important tobacco market. Much tobacco was bought, placed in hogsheads, and taken to the Ohio River for shipment. According to some traditional accounts, these hogsheads had axles arranged and were rolled by mule or ox power to the shipping point on the river, where they were loaded on steamboats.

Glendale

The village of Glendale was surveyed on January 8, 1861, by J. E. Y. Hannah for George W. Waters. The plat was filed on February 1 of the same year. One of the earliest industries located in Glendale was a grist mill. This mill stood about seventy yards below the present-day bridge and was operated by George Kimball.

A post office was established in Glendale on February 19, 1861, and Thomas Stone was appointed postmaster. The postmasters who succeeded him, with the dates of their appointments, are listed below:

George Waters — September 4, 1861.

John R. Kerrell—November 25, 1862.

Morris Dinkelspell — August 2, 1867.

Charles H. Sheldon—February 10, 1869.

J. R. Kurrell—August 28, 1871.

John B. Russell—April 11, 1876.

F. M. Croy—July 10, 1877.

William A. Mangum—November 19, 1877.

John R. Kerrell—May 6, 1878.

Willis Story—June 26, 1882.

Benjamin M. Palmer—May 7, 1884.

Edwin M. Palmer, Jr.—May 20, 1889.

Sarah C. Palmer—February 17, 1890.

Zachariah C. Simpson—October 30, 1893.

Milo Palmer—December 9, 1898.

Mattie E. Palmer—March 8, 1901.

Mattie E. Haynes—September 11, 1901.

Sarah C. Palmer—March 30, 1905.

Edward C. Walter—March 5, 1907.

Lewis Austin—September 8, 1909.

James Walter Chisler—November 5, 1920.

Golconda

The first recorded residents on the site of the present city of Golconda were Major James Lusk and his family. Lusk, who had been given the title of Major for his services at the Battle of Cowpens, came from Kentucky in 1796 and located near the Ohio River, just across from the mouth of Lusk Creek. His property in Kentucky fronted on the river, so it was natural that he began to ferry travelers across. He received a ferry license from Kentucky, in 1797. Major Lusk wished to move across the river into present-day Illinois but was somewhat discouraged by General William H. Harrison, governor of the territory. It was Harrison's wish to offer the Indians living in the region no offense until they could be removed by treaty.

Lusk grew impatient at the waiting and crossed the river into Illinois, then a part of Indiana Territory, in

1789. With materials secured mostly from keel boats, he built a comfortable and somewhat commodious two-story house, near the bank of the river and east of the present city. This became known as Lusk's Tavern. It was also referred to as Fiddlers' Green, a name given by a man named Pittulo, who had been teaching in the vicinity since about 1800. A number of other people who had come with Lusk from the Waxhaw settlement in the Carolinas also crossed the Ohio and took up residence in the immediate vicinity. Several members of the group, led by Lusk, later became prominent in the early affairs of Pope County. Among others were Robert Lacey, Benoni Lee, Shadrack Waters, Thomas Ferguson, his brother, Hamlet Ferguson, and Hector Pittulo.

Major Lusk continued to operate the ferry across the Ohio and to give much attention to the opening of roadways to the west and north. While at his work in opening a roadway toward Green's Ferry on the Mississippi, he became sick and died at Golconda, in 1803. Upon the death of Lusk, his wife, Sarah, continued to operate the ferry, securing a license to do so from Governor William Henry Harrison, in 1804. On April 2, 1805, Mrs. Lusk became the wife of Thomas Ferguson, who had come to the country with the Lusk party.

Ferguson was a man of considerable influence and property. He secured possession of the land where the ferry landing was located, on the Illinois shore. When a town was platted in 1816, Ferguson appeared as owner of practically all the town lots and land surrounding the town. The town was designated as Sarahville, named for Ferguson's wife, the former Sarah Lusk.

The name of Sarahville did not endure for long. In the minutes of June 24, 1817, is the following entry: "Ordered that town at the seat of Justice of Pope County be called Corinth in the room of Sarahville at the request of the proprietors." This entry occurs on page 78, of a book which was evidently used to record notes at the actual session of the court, and from which the permanent records were written. In the official and continuous records of the court proceedings is the following entry under the same date—June 24, 1817: "Ordered that the town now called Sarahville, the present seat of Justice of Pope County, hereafter be called Golconda at the request of the proprietors."

There is no other entry concerning the change in name from Sarahville and no explanation of the manner in which Corinth was dropped and Golconda substituted. The word, Golconda, appears to have been written by another person than the one regularly recording the proceedings. It is also in a much bolder and more prominent style and is underlined. However the change was affected, Sarahville evidently became Corinth before it was called Golconda. Since only one of the county judges, Bemoni Lee, ever signed the minutes of the meeting of June 24, 1817, and since it was the practice for at least

two of the three judges to sign, the manner of the change becomes even more puzzling.

Postal records in the National Archieves show that a post office called Ferguson's Ferry was established in 1812 or 1814, and that Thomas Ferguson was appointed postmaster. Ferguson served until July 18, 1817, when Joshua Scott, then also serving as county recorder, became postmaster. On June 15, 1820, he was succeeded by Amassa Davis. Davis apparently served until the name of Ferguson's Ferry was dropped, in 1825.

The name of Golconda as a post-office first appears on September 7, 1825, when Charles Dunn became postmaster. The following list indicates the others who served during the first century of the Golconda office, and the dates of their appointment.

James Rankin — September 27, 1834.

John Raum—November 26, 1834.

Edward Dobbins—September 5, 1836.

Samuel Roper — September 25, 1837.

James Finney—October 6, 1838.

Wesley Sloan—June 24, 1840.

John Raum—May 30, 1850.

Joseph A. Hall—July 6, 1853.

John Raum—March 20, 1854.

Theodore Steyer—June 10, 1854.

William L. South—April 2, 1855.

John M. Boicourt—April 26, 1856.

Mosov G. Bird—June 3, 1885.

John M. Boicourt—April 24, 1889.

Reappointed—January 16, 1892.

Lewis McCoy—January 3, 1894.

John C. Baker—January 10, 1898.

Francis Baker—March 17, 1911.

Wm. S. Jenkins—June 15, 1911.

I. M. Runsey—July 31, 1913.

Francis Baker — April 1, 1922; April 20, 1922.

Although the record of its beginnings is somewhat fragmentary, Golconda slowly emerged. First it was known as Lusk's Tavern, and often commonly referred to as Fiddlers' Green. A few years later, and for only a brief time, it was designated as Sarahville. Then came, for at least a very brief day, the name of Corinth, which quickly yielded to Golconda.

In 1807, the settlement consisted of three small stores, one tavern, one grocery or saloon, and about twenty dwellings. The town was not then platted, and the houses were not built in any ordered arrangement. In 1816 the plat of Sarahville was recorded. In 1817 it was replatted and changed somewhat from the first platting. Though there have been some additions to the city, this second platting is the one now used, and the stone from which the town is laid out may still be seen at the southeast corner of the square.

When Pope became a county, the first meetings of the officials were held at the residence of Thomas Ferguson. On September 4, 1816, a contract was made for the erection of a courthouse, 24 feet by 26 feet, to be built of logs. This house was to be two stories high, the bottom story of ten feet and the upper one, six feet, with two doors and five win-

dows. Three of the windows were
to be upstairs and large enough to
have nine lights each. This court-
house was to be chinked with stone
and daubed with clay and lime, half
and half.

By 1832, this courthouse was con-
sidered outmoded, and a two-story
brick one was built. The present
courthouse was built in 1871.

Golconda has seen the rise and
decline of river traffic. It was a
stopping place for flatboats and keel-
boats. The first steamboat to ply
the Ohio stopped there in the winter
of 1811. For more than a century
steamboats stopped regularly. The
river showboat came, had its day of
glory, and passed. Many thousands
of emigrants crossed by its ferry,
plodding their way to a beckoning
West. The Cherokee Indians, on their
sad trek from their homes in Georgia
to the Indian Territory, crossed there.
The legend of Sarah Lusk clusters
about this point. Stories of buried
treasures abound. Practically the
entire roster of pioneer crafts and
industries came, prospered for a
while, and passed from existence. Its
sons have gone forth to write their
names prominently on the pages of
history. Golconda has many a story
to tell to a willing listener.

Gowanville

This village once stood north of
Golconda and about one-half mile
off the paved highway leading to
Elizabethtown. It was named for
the Goin family. A post office was
established there on April 7, 1900,
and Samuel Goin was appointed post-
master. The office was discontin-

ued on August 25, 1903, and mail
was sent to Golconda. It is inter-
esting to note the various spellings
of Goin, Gowin, and Gowanville as
they occur in different records.

Halltown

Halltown is located about one mile
north of Golconda, near the old fair
ground. It was surveyed by J. E.
Y. Hannah on August 12, 1868, and
the plat was filed for record ten days
later. At the present time, a few
houses and a filling station mark the
site. No records of a post office at
this place have been found.

Hamletsburg

The town of Hamletsburg, which
takes its name from Hamlet Fergu-
son who once operated a ferry there,
was surveyed by J. E. Y. Hannah for
Robert Ferguson as proprietor, on
September 8, 1859. The plat was
recorded in the Circuit Clerk's office
on the same day. Charley Wool-
ridge and Charley McGee had Han-
nah make a plat of an addition to
the town on April 9 and 10, 1884.
This plat was filed for record in May
of the same year. On September 2,
1824, a second plat was filed.

The first post office, spelled Ham-
letsburgh, was established on Feb-
ruary 2, 1885, and Fred L. Ashwill
was appointed postmaster. The suc-
ceeding postmasters are listed below,
with the dates of their appointments.

James L. House—March 17, 1888.
John F. Fisher—April 3, 1889.
Philip B. Clark—August 5, 1896.
Samuel W. Neely—July 22, 1897.

Samuel W. Neely—May 23, 1906.

George McCawley—May 5, 1931.

The spelling of the post office name was changed from Hamletsburgh to Hamletsburg on August 5, 1893.

Hartsville

Hartsville is now a small collection of houses on the old Herod-Golconda road, about four miles southwest of Herod. A post office and two country stores were once located here. This was the division point for the mail between Harrisburg and Golconda. This mail was carried for some time by "Uncle Alf Unsell." At times, Mr. Unsell carried the mail on mule-back, going from Hartsville to Golconda and returning on one day, and from Hartsville to Harrisburg and returning on the second day. The post office was established on April 17, 1882, and Marion M. House was appointed postmaster. The other men who served as postmasters at Hartsville and the dates of their appointments are given below:

William B. L. Biggs—February 25, 1884.

William Moser—March 2, 1887.

John S. Johnson—December 5, 1889.

Lilly Robertson—November 20, 1893.

John S. Johnson—December 1, 1897.

Val Wasson—December 3, 1904.

Monroe W. Dixon—September 11, 1905.

Gertie Reins—June 16, 1906.

John S. Johnson—March 16, 1910.

This office was discontinued on January 15, 1915.

Hartsville was once an important trading center, and Hart's Store was widely known. An important early blacksmith shop, where many wagons were made, operated here. The first store building used by Hart is yet standing, in 1947, as is also the large shed where farm implements were sold.

Herod

The town of Herod, located in the opening through the hills and known as Thacker's Gap, has been a trading post since about 1880, when George Smith established a small store there. Before the establishment of a store at this point, Phil Drumm had operated a water mill in the vicinity. An early Baptist church was also established there.

The first post office, known as Herod Springs, was established on April 19, 1888, and David W. Herod, Sr., was appointed postmaster. On May 8, 1888, he was succeeded by Daniel W. Herod, Jr., and he in turn, by John A. L. Herod, on March 13, 1890. The name of the post office was changed from Herod Springs to Herod, on July 26, 1895, and Charles Oatman was appointed postmaster. The postmasters that later served at Herod are listed, with their dates of appointment:

Charles Sauty—December 1, 1899.

William Partain — January 24, 1920.

Jesse A. Crabb—January 6, 1903.

Byron E. Hart—April 2, 1909.

Ethel H. Randolph—March 1, 1913.

John R. Hart—August 15, 1919.

Shuma E. Schrall—January 15, 1921.

The post office was discontinued on September 15, 1922, and it was ordered that the mail be sent to Monolith, the location of which the author has been unable to establish. This office of Monolith must have been in Saline County, since no mention of it has been found in the postal records of Pope.

The post office was re-established on May 17, 1930, when Mrs. Auda P. Ferrell was appointed postmistress. On April 29, 1931, she was succeeded by Mrs. Eunice H. Joiner.

Hodgville

The post office of Hodgville was located in Section 33, about one mile south of Brownfield. It was established on January 19, 1899, and John W. Hodge was appointed postmaster. Others who served later and the dates when they were appointed are given below.

Della Hodge—March 13, 1900.

Charles E. Baker—July 31, 1900.

Jesse I. Baker—March 24, 1903.

The office was discontinued on October 28, 1903.

Holmes

On November 14, 1905, a post office was established in the vicinity of Homberg and named Holmes. Joseph M. Baker was appointed postmaster. The name of this post office was changed to Paul on October 1, 1906. James P. Williams became postmaster on March 16, 1910, and Ada I. Marberry succeeded him on August 15, 1912. The office was ordered discontinued on November 15, 1917, and mail was sent to Golconda.

Homberg

The town of Homberg, sometimes spelled "Hombirg" and at other times "Homburg" takes its name from Fritz Homburg, an immigrant from Germany. The village was surveyed on November 8, 1902, by H. J. Taylor, for John R. Homburg and Sarah J. Homburg. The plat was filed for record on the same day it was surveyed. So far as the records indicate, there was no post office at this place that carried the name of the village.

Jones

The post office of Jones was established on April 24, 1900, with Gertie Jones as postmaster. An order to discontinue this post office was issued on September 11, 1901, and mail was to be sent to Ozark. It will thus be seen that this post office existed for less than a year and a half. It was located in the vicinity east of McCormick.

Louis

A post office was established at Louis, on October 27, 1884, with William R. Stalions as postmaster. It was discontinued on January 22, 1886, and mail was ordered sent to Stonefort.

According to tradition, this office was located between Ozark and Delwood, but was nearer the latter. It may be of interest to note that William R. Stalions, named as the first postmaster here, also served in that position at Colorado and at Delwood. With him, being postmaster was almost a habit.

Lusk

The village of Lusk is shown on the 1876 map of Illinois and on later ones. It was at one time a rather prosperous village and had a large blacksmith shop that built wagons. At present it has a small stone and blacksmith shop where an old gentleman does repair work on farm implements. The first store in Lusk was kept by J. R. King who was later followed by Pankey, by William Hedrick, and by the present James Buchanan. The early blacksmith shop was operated by David King and by a man named Upchurch. Dutton Chapel Church is nearby. Floyd Cemetery is a short distance north. The post office was established at Lusk on November 14, 1860, and James Floyd was appointed postmaster. The list of postmasters who served there and the dates of appointment are given below:

James B. Floyd—March 2, 1874.

Dr. George B. Rawlings—November 23, 1874.

William W. Diorman—October 16, 1879.

Joel A. Hart—November 1, 1886.

John G. Cullum—August 26, 1887.

Discontinued—September 14, 1887.

Re-established — November 14, 1887.

George W. Diorman—November 14, 1887.

Martha J. Diorman—November 26, 1888.

William Hedrick—November 7, 1891.

Green Story—April 25, 1894.

James M. Buchanan—August 14, 1894.

James R. King—May, 1898.

James Pankey—October 29, 1906.

James H. Buchanan—April 17, 1908.

The post office was again discontinued on October 31, 1913, and the mail ordered sent to Golconda.

McCormick

McCormick is a small village that was established by "Uncle Mack" McCormick, whose real name was Christian L. McCormick. It is related that McCormick came to this locality as a wagon peddler. After his establishment of McCormick's store there, a man named Lem Dunn set up a grist mill and a hoop mill. Many hoop poles, cut in the vicinity, were split and shaved on the site where Mr. Jackson's barn now stands. A stave mill was also located a short distance from McCormick, on the road toward Glendale.

The first post office was established at McCormick on September 16, 1889, with Christian L. McCormick as postmaster. The other postmasters at McCormick are indicated on the following list with the dates of their appointments:

Peter Morris—November 4, 1908.

Burt Bynum—November 24, 1914.

William H. Bryan—May 3, 1915.

John I. Baker—October 29, 1918.

Dewey McCormick—August 13, 1919.

Arthur McCormick—May 17, 1923.

The office was discontinued on August 31, 1926, and mail was sent to Stonefort.

Mealer

The post office named Mealer, somewhere between Eddyville and Delwood, was established on July 27, 1900, with Meredith Mealer as postmaster. It did not operate long and was discontinued on October 1, 1900. According to local stories, this place was also referred to as Slapout. This name came from an oft-repeated remark of the merchant who kept a small store there. When asked for any article not in stock, his usual reply was, "I am slap out of that!"

New Liberty

The Village of New Liberty is located in Section 16, Township 16 South, Range 17 East. While a post office had existed in that vicinity for some time, it was not until March 6, 1860, that J. E. Y. Hannah, County Surveyor, made a plat for the village. This plat was recorded on the day it was made. One of the residents of New Liberty, in 1876 was J. H. Jacobs, proprietor and captain of a steamboat operating on the Ohio River.

Several years before the village appeared, a post office had been established, on September 11, 1848, and Samuel F. Simpson appointed postmaster. Other postmasters who

served there and the dates of their appointments are indicated in the following table:

James J. Shemwell—November 30, 1848.

George W. Neely—June 28, 1854.

Joshiah Dayhuff—December 2, 1854.

John F. Stewart—June 2, 1858.

J. A. Sheerer—September 4, 1866.

Ebeneezer Simpson—October 28, 1869.

James B. Angely—January 25, 1871.

John W. Ashwill—January 2, 1872.

Milo Velvey—September 3, 1875.

John W. Ashwill—November 9, 1876.

Ephrain B. Shearer—November 17, 1879.

John W. Ashwill—August 10, 1881.

Fred L. Ashwill—April 26, 1883.

Discontinued—September 7, 1885.

Re-established—June 17, 1889.

Elisha Baugh—June 17, 1889.

Warren P. Rankin—December 26, 1889.

Robert F. Owen—October 28, 1893.

John W. Adamson—May 2, 1896.

Sarah E. Lewis—July 15, 1898.

Lorenz O. Harris—March 4, 1915.

Bedford E. Henley—July 6, 1920.

Newport

A post office known as Newport was established on April 1, 1837, and Williston F. Read was appointed postmaster. This post office opera-

ted until October 2, 1838, when it was discontinued. The exact location of the office is not known, but it is thought to have been on the Ohio, in the vicinity of Bay City.

Oak

Oak is shown on the Illinois Atlas, issued in 1876. At that time it was one mile south of the present post office. The first office was established at Oak, on October 30, 1860, with James Dixon as postmaster. The list of those serving there later and the dates of their appointments are listed below:

Norman Finney—August 4, 1863.

George W. Owen—September 7, 1865.

William J. Wilson—February 5, 1867.

Thomas D. Gossage—February 24, 1868.

Jeremiah Williams—October 3, 1871.

T. Gowen—March 5, 1874.

George W. Gapage—April 6, 1874.

Discontinued—May 22, 1876.

Re-established — November 27, 1876.

Robert W. Albert—November 27, 1876.

James B. Floy—December 17, 1877.

George W. Waddell—January 3, 1881.

Aden C. Alexander—January 3, 1881.

William Parks — November 23, 1882.

Carroll F. Baker—October 11, 1886.

Elijah McAnnally—December 17, 1886.

Elbert J. Hancock—February 21, 1890.

Sidney B. Hancock—March 24, 1892.

Jasper N. Hart—August 15, 1895.

Richard Hawkins—December 13, 1901.

Joshua Hart—December 2, 1902.

George G. Hart—May 5, 1919.

Mrs. Julia Fulkerson—January 24, 1924.

Ora

The post office named Ora, near the northeast corner of the county, was established on August 21, 1901, and Daniel N. Cox was appointed postmaster. Other postmasters at Ora are shown on the following list:

James P. Williams—October 31, 1904.

William W. Williams—July 7, 1906.

Fannie Estes—October 4, 1907.

On April 29, 1908, this office was ordered closed and mail sent to Hicks.

Orville

Orville was located about three miles north of Golconda, near where the present highway bends to the northwest. The post office was established on April 26, 1869, with Richard Fulkerson as post master.

It was discontinued on April 12, 1871, and re-established on June 14, 1876, with William R. Storey as post-

master. Alexander N. Couley became postmaster on October 8, 1877.

Though this post office was discontinued, the exact date of discontinuance could not be found on the postal records.

Poco

Poco was located about four miles west and two miles north of Hamletsburg, near the site of the old cotton gin. The post office was established on May 2, 1884, and Philip G. Reynolds was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by J. Clabe Reynolds, on January 6, 1906. The office was discontinued on March 30, 1906, and mail sent to New Liberty.

Ragan

A post office named Ragan was established on February 19, 1898, but according to postal records, this post office was never placed in operation in Pope County and was discontinued on June 23, 1898. Its location is not definitely fixed, but tradition has it located near the Pope-Johnson County line, in the vicinity of Ozark. There is some claim that it was located in Johnson County. Since it is listed on the postal records among the post offices of Pope County, it may be safely inferred that it was on the Pope County side of the line.

Raum

The town of Raum, named for Captain John Raum of Golconda, secured its name through the efforts of John G. Anderson, who was appointed

postmaster when the office was established, March 18, 1883. William H. Carr, the second postmaster, was appointed on July 21, 1899. The office was ordered discontinued on January 23, 1904, and re-established on June 14, 1904, with James Buchanan as postmaster. It was again discontinued on March 8, 1905, only to be re-established on June 8, 1905, with Frank A. King as postmaster. He was succeeded by Richard R. Taylor on August 5, 1912. The office was again discontinued on December 15, 1920. It was later re-established for the third time.

Renshaw

Renshaw was a flag station on the branch line of the Illinois Central, about three miles east of Reevesville. It was named for the Reverend Elmer E. Renshaw. A post office was established there on December 27, 1902, and Renshaw was the first postmaster. Upon the death of Reverend Renshaw, his widow, Rachel C. Renshaw, became postmistress, on March 1, 1905. Beginning February 4, 1907, she also served as Rachel C. Walker, after her marriage to a man named Walker. Ray Ball became postmaster on October 8, 1913. The post office was later discontinued.

Rising Sun

A post office was established at Rising Sun, located about two miles north of Waltersburg, on the old roadway, on November 22, 1895, and George G. Hertter became postmaster. This post office was discontin-

ued by an order dated November 28, 1906, and mail was sent to Golconda.

Robbs

Robbs was named for Albert L. Robbs on whose land it is located. Indeed, Mr. Robbs practically owns the town. Once a farmer, he became interested in selling washing machines and clothes wringer. The washing machines were of the plunger type, made of a funnel shaped piece of metal on the end of a broomstick. Robbs proved an excellent business man, and through the sale of these washers and wringer, through the establishment of agencies for their sale, and through numerous other business ventures, he accumulated considerable wealth. This town, practically all owned by one individual, is in that way a rather unique one.

Rock

Rock has never been much more than a few houses. It is said to have been given its name because of a large cluster of rocks near the site of the village, that, according to tradition, was first known as Birdseye. The post office was established there on September 9, 1853, and John Ellis was appointed postmaster. Succeeding postmasters and their dates of appointment are given below:

John W. Parmley—August 18, 1879.

James T. Grisham—May 7, 1884.

John W. Parmley—November 8, 1887.

Reuben H. Chrisman—December 24, 1889.

Milo Austin—November 20, 1893.

James O. Grisham—July 26, 1897.

Andrew J. Caldwell—December 29, 1900.

Flavius M. Palmer—April 6, 1909.

Andrew J. Caldwell—May 4, 1911.

Milo Austin—May 9, 1913.

Fae Caldwell—July 31, 1914.

John W. Ellis—June 29, 1916.

This office was discontinued and mail sent to Golconda, on November 15, 1917.

Rock Quarry

Rock Quarry was located in Pope County, down the river a short distance from Shetlerville.

A post office was established there on September 12, 1850, and John Diorman was appointed postmaster. It was discontinued on December 17, 1852, and re-established on September 19, 1853, with Richard Ferguson as postmaster. The post office was again discontinued on October 16, 1855, to be re-established on September 22, 1858, with John Maloney as postmaster. He was succeeded by James Belford on June 22, 1859. The post office was again and, finally, discontinued on November 10 of that year. This place takes its name from the fact that in early days a stone quarry was located there.

Rosebud

Rose Bud began its existence with a name of two words. It was established on August 10, 1869, with A. G. Cheney as the first postmaster. He was succeeded by William King, on May 23, 1870. The name was

changed to one word, Rosebud, on June 13, 1894, and Hallie L. Bird was appointed postmaster. On September 21, 1897, John L. King became postmaster; he was followed by William King, November 28, 1904; and he, in turn, by Thomas A. King, September 23, 1915.

Shandsville

Shandsville was located about five miles west and three miles north of present day Hamletsburg, near the Massac-Pope County Line. The first post office was established there on June 15, 1870, and J. N. Shemwell was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by Augustus Helcher on June 6, 1873. The post office was discontinued on November 16, 1875.

Stouts

Stouts was established as a post office in Pope County on September 3, 1872. The office was discontinued on August 3, 1874. No record of its location has been found.

Tansill

This village was located about one and one-half miles southeast of Homberg, on the north side of Bear Creek. At the present time, a store is about all that marks the place. The first post office was established on July 7, 1884, with John Barnett as postmaster. Other men who served as postmasters there, with the dates of their appointments, are listed below:

Newton Gilbert—November 20, 1889.

John R. Scott—December 24, 1890.

Discontinued and mail sent to Rosebud—February 29, 1896.

Re-established and Thomas F. Cromeenes appointed postmaster, December 11, 1897.

This office was again ordered discontinued on December 2, 1906, and the mail sent to Golconda. The order to discontinue, however, was rescinded on December 14, 1906, before the date set had arrived for the office to cease service. On December 24, 1906, Syrus T. Cromeenes became postmaster. The office was finally discontinued and mail ordered sent to Golconda, on July 31, 1907.

Temple Hill

Temple Hill is shown as a church and a lodge hall as early as 1876. The post office was established on January 12, 1888, with Thomas S. Holifield as postmaster. Other persons who were in charge of this office are indicated in the list below:

Eugene S. Welton—August 23, 1890.

William C. Holmes—August 18, 1894.

Eugene S. Welton—February 4, 1897.

William C. Holmes—July 31, 1907.

Mark C. Welton—December 5, 1912.

William C. Holmes—August 17, 1914.

Mrs. Madge King—December 1, 1927.

This office was discontinued on December 13, 1927.

Underwood

The post office of Underwood was located in the northwest portion of the county. It was established on May 1, 1902, and the name of the postmaster was given as Pierce A. Underwood. Underwood's first name must have been in error, for the name of the postmaster appeared as Prince A. Underwood on May 19, 1902. The post office was discontinued on June 24, 1903, and mail ordered sent to Ozark.

Walnut Shade

Walnut Shade post office was established in the Eddyville area on June 19, 1854, with Burton W. Holloway as postmaster. The office was discontinued on a May 1, sometime during the 1860's, the last figure on the date not being legible on the postal records.

Waltersburg

The village of Waltersburg was named for a family that settled in that vicinity. It soon became a prosperous trading center. At one time much tobacco was grown in his vicinity, and Waltersburg became an important market for this crop. Much tobacco was packed in hogsheads here and taken to Golconda for shipment by river.

On June 12, 1878, the first post office was established and called Wallersburg, with Andrew J. Walker as postmaster. The name of the post office was changed on July 1, 1878, to Waltersburg, and Adolph W. Walter appointed postmaster. The next mention of this post office, found in the postal records, was a notice indicating its discontinuance, on November 30, 1917. The mail was ordered sent to Golconda. It should be noted from this record that Adolph W. Walters was postmaster for more than thirty-nine years.

Wool

Brownfield, Old Brownfield, Columbus, and Wool are all names used to indicate the same place. The name of Wool was given to the post office located at or near Columbus. In later years this place became known as Brownfield. With the founding of the village on the railroad, the older place became known as "old" Brownfield. It was named for John Brown, a local merchant, who operated a hotel and kept a dry goods store. The town of Brownfield was platted by John H. Sharp, a civil engineer, and Thomas F. Dunn and N. B. Bland became proprietors. This plat was prepared April 8, 1902, and filed for record in the County Clerk's office, April 22, 1902. The village is located in the SE¼ of the NE¼ of S36, T13S, R5E. New Brownfield was platted by T. D. Waters on May 25, 1903, and filed for record on April 20, 1908. This town of New Brownfield is located on the railroad.

The village of Columbus is shown on the 1876 atlas with the name of the post office as Wool. It is located about the center of Section 30. The village of Columbus was surveyed by J. E. Y. Hannah, and the plat was filed on January 18, 1871. This post office of Wool is said to have been named for a General Wool.

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Green's old mill was located near Brownfield. It was on Big Bay Creek in the NE¼ of S36, and on June 13, 1820, that Green was given permission to build a dam 7 feet 6 inches high.

The post office, Wool, was established August 5, 1857, with Joshua M. Ragsdale as postmaster. The other persons who served as postmasters at Wool are given below, with their dates of appointment:

John T. Hielerman—May 16, 1863.
John R. Brown—April 30, 1872.
John T. Baldwin—December 15, 1884.
Maggie Brown—January 2, 1885.

It was discontinued and mail sent to Brownfield on August 27, 1892. A new post office, Brownfield, which took the place of Wool, was established on the same day. While it bore the name Brownfield, the following persons served as postmasters:

Maggie Brown—August 27, 1892.
William J. Parmley—March 16, 1894.
Maggie B. Reeves—February 9, 1898.

Elish W. Green—December 6, 1902.

The office was discontinued on July 9, 1906, and mail sent to Golconda. This office was evidently re-established, however, since W. C. Wierville was appointed postmaster on July 10, 1911.

Another post office known as New Brownfield was established a short distance from the old town, January 10, 1903, and Thomas F. Dunn was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded on January 24, 1907, by Wesley W. Wierville. The post office was discontinued on July 10, 1911, and the mail sent to Brownfield.

Zion Hill

Zion Hill post office, which may be somewhat indefintely located about six miles west of Eddyville and near the Johnson-Pope County line, was established on June 15, 1857, and William Wooten appointed postmaster. The office was discontinued on December 19, 1862.

These notes have been written with the full realization that many included subjects deserve a more thorough treatment. Also there are numerous other items that merited inclusion if the allotted space had permitted. If these fragments of Pope County's story and the map included in the booklet help to increase interest in local history, they will have served their purpose. The story of the county deserves a more nearly-complete treatment.

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The author has also interviewed numerous older settlers in the area. Wherever such information has been used, it has been carefully checked and verified.

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to illustrated map at end of book.

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HISTORICAL PICTORIAL MAP

OF

POPE
COUNTY

(ILLINOIS)

HISTORICAL DIVISION OF THE
S.I.U. MUSEUM

DRAWN BY LORAINE WATERS